THE TIMES

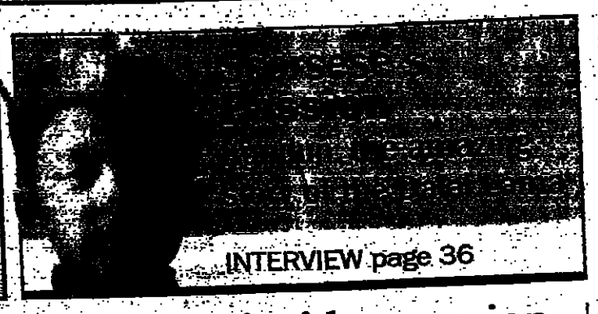
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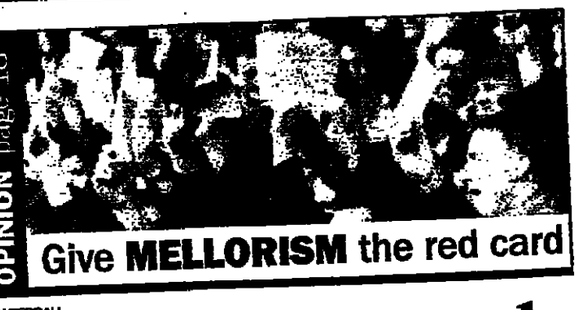
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Give MELLORISM the red card

Industry threatened with recession

Dilemma for Brown as pound soars

BY JANET BUSH AND ANNE ASHWORTH

THE pound yesterday soared to its highest level for a decade, threatening to condemn manufacturing to recession and putting the spotlight on the Chancellor's economic policies.

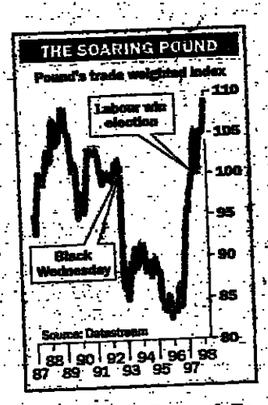
Gordon Brown today faces a grilling from MPs on the powerful Commons Treasury Committee on his Budget but the strength of sterling and the painful impact on British exporters is likely to be high on the agenda.

Sterling jumped to 108.9 against a basket of world currencies, the highest level it has been since April, 1988. Against the German mark, the pound hit a peak of DM3.0966, its highest level since August 1, 1989.

The upwards march of the exchange rate — there has been an increase of nearly 20 per cent just in the past 15 months and by 30 per cent over the past two years — means that British industry is now far less competitive than it was even during membership of the European exchange rate mechanism.

The City is now talking openly about recession and a crisis in the balance of payments as exports are squeezed while consumers suck in imported goods. Paul Mortimer-Lee, chief capital markets economist at Banque Paribas, estimated that the rise in the pound since the beginning of last year could wipe 10 per cent off British exports over the next two to three years, leaving no growth in exports at all over that period.

Mr Mortimer-Lee is one of many City economists arguing that the pound's strength has been exacerbated by errors in economic policy. He argues that Mr Brown should have raised taxes last July and this month to rein back consumers. Instead, the task of slowing the economy to a more sustainable speed has fallen on the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee which now has sole charge of interest rates.



He believes that the committee should have raised interest rates more aggressively last year and then called a halt. As things now stand, there is still speculation that the committee may raise rates again and this has helped to fuel buying of the pound. "Gordon Brown and the committee have spun out the agony for much longer than was necessary," Mr Mortimer said.

The MMC faces the impossible task of designing a single policy for two distinct and diverging British economies: a manufacturing sector threatened with recession and a services sector that is still cashing in on the confidence of the British consumer.

Lower interest rates could help bring the pound lower but would exacerbate the strength in the consumer economy that the Bank of England fears may fuel inflation.

The Chancellor has expressed broad sympathy with the plight of British manufacturers but, with tax and spending policies already set out and interest rate policy in the hands of the MPC, he seems powerless to do anything about it. He has also committed himself to keeping the pound out of the European single currency, ring this parliament a decision that has attracted huge flows into sterling as a safe haven from the uncertainties of the euro.

John Redwood, the Conservative trade spokesman, said last night that the Chancellor's policies were wrecking British manufacturing. "It is no good the Chancellor wringing his hands and saying it is not his fault. It is all his own work. If he had promoted savings and kept the power over interest rates, we would not be in such a big mess."

Mortgage and house prices figures released yesterday gave evidence of the growing strength of the housing market which has now climbed above its the peak reached in the third quarter of 1989. Prices are 12.3 per cent higher than a year ago, according to the Nationwide Building Society.

The Council of Mortgage Lenders said that their bank and building society members had seen an upsurge in mortgage approvals to a record figure, indicating that price rises should continue in the months to come.

The strength of the pound is proving a bonanza for British holidaymakers. Thomas Cook estimates that long-haul holidays to Thailand, whose currency has plunged by 50 per cent against the pound since the Asian economic crisis last autumn, are up 20 per cent on a year ago.

Figures from American Express show that travellers taking a spring break in Paris or Rome will find that their money goes 12 per cent further. Those bound for Dublin will do even better, seeing their pound stretch some 19 per cent further. The 14 per cent devaluation in the drachma means that a Greek holiday is 26 per cent cheaper.

Tourist rates, page 28

The MPC meets to discuss interest rates on Wednesday and Thursday next week.

MARTIN BEDDALL



Jane Couch celebrating a victory which may bring women's boxing to Britain

Woman's knock-out blow

BY RUSSELL JENKINS AND HELEN RUMBELOW

A WOMAN boxer, known as the Fleetwood Assassin, celebrated last night after winning her claim for sexual discrimination against the British Boxing Board of Control over its refusal to grant her a licence to box professionally.

Jane Couch, 29, the women's world welterweight boxing champion, who plans to defend her title this summer, said last night after the industrial tribunal verdict was announced: "This is the second happiest day of my life after winning my title. I am overwhelmed. It came as a real shock. My first fight in Britain will be a big one. I'd like it to be in Manchester with the same billing as Prince Naseem a Sheffield boy and a Northern lass."

First round, page 5

Italy accused of 'passing the parcel' as Kosovans fly in

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT AND RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

BRITAIN last night accused Italy of playing "pass the parcel" with asylum seekers after it dumped almost 60 Kosovan refugees in Britain at the weekend.

The Italian authorities ordered the Kosovans out of Rome in spite of Britain informing the Italians that the refugees should not be sent to London. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, talked to his counterpart in Rome last night, but the Italian minister knew nothing of the incident and ordered his officials to investigate.

Mike O'Brien, the Immigration Minister, accused the Italians of playing "pass the parcel" with asylum seekers and said the Government was most concerned. "The Italians asked us to accept these 56 Kosovans and we told them we would not accept them and the Italians ought to deal with them," he said.

The incident comes just days after it was disclosed that Belgium had been sending asylum seekers to London aboard the Eurostar.

Fifty-six Kosovans landed at Heathrow airport on Saturday night without proper documents after the Alitalia airline had been ordered by a police officer in Rome to fly them to London. The Kosovans had arrived in Rome last week from Amman with tickets showing they intended to travel to London.

Alitalia offered to fly the group, comprising five family units, one couple, 17 single people and six unaccompanied minors, to Belgrade or Budapest but they refused.

Last Friday Alitalia contacted the UK immigration authorities and asked if Britain would accept the asylum seekers but was told that it was for the Italians to deal with them. Under the Dublin Convention asylum seekers must be dealt with in the first safe EU country in which they arrive.

On Saturday the Kosovans arrived at Heathrow on the day's last Alitalia flight, making it impossible for Britain to return them to Rome that night. Their tickets were out of date but according to immigration service sources the chief commissioner of state police for the district covering Rome's main airport had served the order on Alitalia.

Last night Mr O'Brien said that the asylum seekers were not properly documented and should not have been carried by Alitalia. "The airline says they were obliged to take them by the Italian authorities and such a step would be very serious indeed."

It is understood the Kosovans did not have visas to enter either Italy or the UK and immigration sources said that the Italians should have been suspicious about them because they had arrived from Jordan.

A spokesman for Alitalia in London confirmed that the airline had been ordered under Italian immigration rules to fly the Kosovans to London. British immigration service sources have the Italian document ordering the airline to fly the Kosovans to the UK and say that Alitalia is relying on it to avoid being liable to a fine of more than £100,000 for flying passengers to Britain without proper documents.

Last night, most of the Kosovans were in detention at Heathrow while immigration officials investigated their claim for asylum.

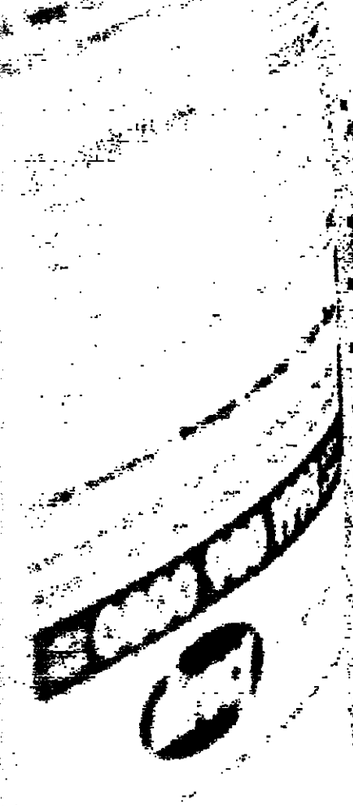
Designer Hicks dies aged 69

David Hicks, the interior decorator and garden designer and son-in-law of Earl Mountbatten of Burma, died yesterday. He was 69.

Hicks, who married Lady Pamela Mountbatten in 1960, favoured strong colours and vibrant, geometric design.

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DPP under fire hires defender

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Director of Public Prosecutions has instructed a private company of communications consultants to help her to fight damning criticisms expected in a report by Sir Iain Glidewell into the Crown Prosecution Service.

Dame Barbara Mills has commissioned Crown Communications — at a cost of tens of thousands of pounds — to put her own "spin" on the report as it lands on 6,000 staff desks. The unprecedented move is a clear sign that she is squaring up for a battle and has no intention of being ousted from her post before she retires in April next year.

The Glidewell report is expected to propose the dismantling of the centralised service Dame Barbara heads, and the creation of devolved regional branches with extensive powers. It is also likely to criticise too many failed prosecutions and the culture of bureaucracy that has evolved, distancing lawyers from key decisions.

Crown Communications, which has handled other sensitive issues from the Railtrack privatisation to company annual meetings, will produce a video on the report and stage conferences around England and Wales where staff will be told the contents. Lyn Salisbury, head of CPS internal communications, said the company had been recruited last week after a tendering exercise. Nicky Havelaar, a partner in Crown Communications, said it was experienced in working for government and had been instructed by various departments.

In a second move, the CPS is using outside experts on a freelance basis to help with its response to draft sections of Glidewell. The report's publication has slipped until May, in part because of Dame Barbara's detailed responses to sections on which she has been invited to comment.

Her initiative, and determination to cling on, could pose a severe embarrassment for John Morris, the Attorney-General, and the Government. There is a strong desire among some government sectors to have a clean broom usher in what are expected to be far-reaching reforms proposed by Sir Iain, a former Court of Appeal judge, and Sir Geoffrey Dear, former Chief Constable for West Midlands. But sacking the DPP would not be an option.

Rodney Warren, a solicitor and committee member of the Criminal Law Solicitors Association, said that it "appears on the face of it to be an outrageous use of public funds".

Jonathan Baume, CPS general secretary, expressed concern and frustration at the continuing delays in publishing the report.



"At 60mph all you can hear is Rolls and Royce turning in their graves"

Enthusiasts determined to keep Rolls-Royce in British hands refused to give up despite the announcement that a BMW bid had been accepted..... Pages 9, 27, 29

MP takes up cause of the Weatherfield One



Deirdre: victim of her conman boyfriend

BY ALAN HAMILTON

A BACKBENCH Labour MP last night demanded that Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, intervene to secure the immediate release of Deirdre Rachid, jailed for 18 months at the weekend after being convicted of fraud.

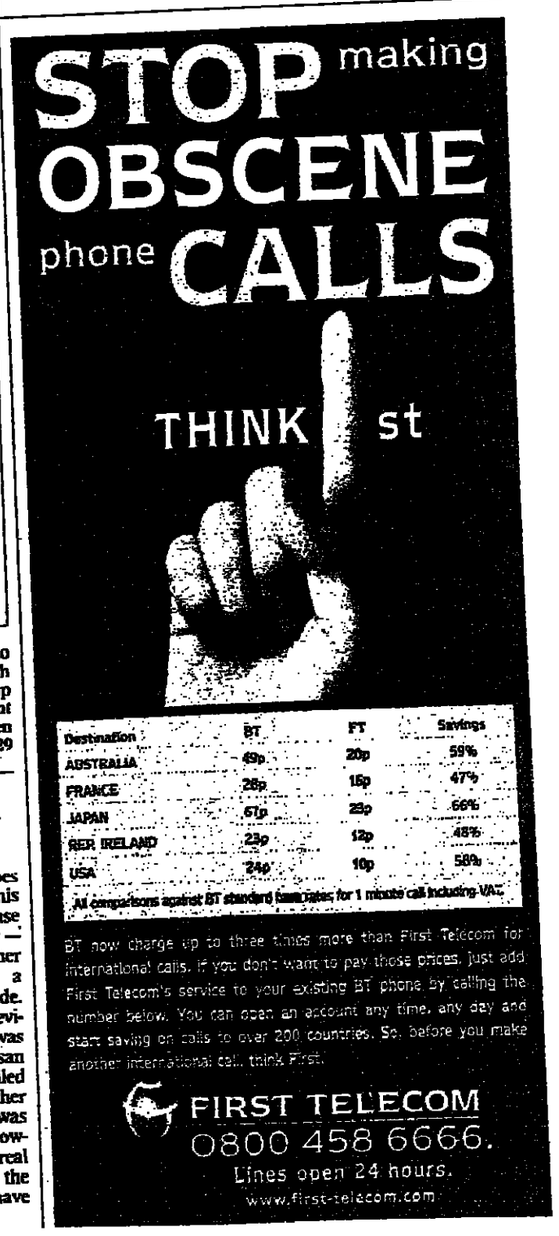
Fraser Kemp, MP for Houghton and Washington East, said he was voicing the concern of up to 20 million ordinary citizens at the jailing of Ms Rachid, an innocent victim of her conman lover who escaped with a suspended sentence. The sentiments may be worthy, but the premise is unreal: Deirdre Rachid does not exist, except in the minds of the scriptwriters of *Coronation Street* and that soap's devoted viewers.

Blurring the boundaries between reality and fiction has never deterred politicians in their constant quest to get a soundbite and Mr Kemp is no exception. He said yesterday that momentum would soon build up for his campaign to Free The Weatherfield One.

Mr Kemp said last night: "It is fairly apparent Deirdre is innocent. The Home Secretary should intervene and ensure that justice is done and she is released from prison." Bespectacled, grey-haired and distraught, Deirdre was seen in Sunday's episode being led away from court to begin her sentence. The switchboard at Granada TV, the programme's makers, was flooded with calls from viewers who thought she was the innocent victim of her ne'er-do-well boyfriend Jon Lindsay — by no means the first man she has fallen for in a thrice-married fictional life.

The Home Secretary does not appear minded at this stage to intervene in the case of Deirdre, taking the lofty — and realistic — view that her early release would be a matter for the courts to decide.

Michael Howard, the previous Home Secretary, was drawn into the case of Susan Carter of *The Archers*, jailed for harbouring her brother Clive Horrobin while he was on the run from police. Howard agreed that, in the real world, had he been on the bench, he would not have jailed her.



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Low benchmark as no one really bothers to hit home

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Home Office Questions occur a handful of times a year. Yesterday some 25 Labour backbenchers and fewer Tories turned up to hold the Home Secretary to account for his stewardship of about half the significant functions of government in Britain. A few journalists looked in, just in case anything happened at that isolated appendage to the President's Palace at Downing Street we are pleased to call our legislature.

We need not have bothered. A few backbenchers queued to convey their condolences at the murder of a football supporter: the Home Secretary expressed disappointment that nobody in France will answer his letters about the sale there of Fifa-branded knives: and MPs were told by ministers what they could have learnt on the Internet: that our prison population is 65,000, and will reach 69,000 next year and 72,000 the following year.

If new Labour consults its pet focus groups then, when the figure hits 100,000, the Government will arrange a national celebration, with lottery-funded street-parties. Hooray! *Tough on crime! Another pledge fulfilled!*

But apparently the Home Secretary *is* under pressure from MPs to stop the imprisonment of one individual, Deirdre Rachid, who does not exist: a character in *Coronation Street*. The Tories put out a statement appealing for clemency.

Thus do we cater for the remnants of compassion among our politicians: they can complain about the imprisonment of imaginary people. Knowing that MPs have intervened on behalf of a fiction, you may believe a second revelation for which I have less proof. Watching Home Office ministers and Government backbenchers yesterday, your sketchwriter guessed that Mike O'Brien MP has webbed feet.

How do I know this? Unless you have visualised, it is impossible to explain. *All* the anodyne, ambitious, time-serving, iron-grey-coiffed, 40-something junior ministers who serve among the souls of the dead as model footsoldiers in Tony Blair's terracotta parliamentary army have webbed feet. They are not quite human. That is *why they never take their shoes and socks off in public*. What the webbed feet are for has yet to be established. It may be in order to swim more effortlessly with the tide.

"Individual cases will be *considered on their merits*," hummed Mr O'Brien; and, later: "*An independent review* of the asylum process is to be *carried out as part of the* overall review."

Ministers with webbed feet never say anything much. They *know instinctively* which other ministers and backbenchers *share their* web-footedness, responding sympathetically. When Anne Campbell (Lab, Cambridge) trilled about the human rights deficiencies of the last Government — "and it is new Labour that is putting this right!" — she knew she was addressing a web-footer.

He hummed happily back. He knows she has them too. Later, we learned from a letter leaked by a Tory invited by mistake that the web-footed tendency on the Government side had held a meeting in Committee Room W1 to *rehearse* their questions to Home Office ministers.

Near the end, Norman "superbore" Baker (Lib Dem, Lewes) asked the Home Secretary about MI5. Jack Straw burbled about the "intelligence and security community" (do they have a village hall?). Baker droned on: how many telephone tappers were there?

Mr Straw would not say. But I saw a quietly-dressed man yesterday, staggering, dazed, along a Whitehall pavement, white as a sheet, an expression of numbed stupefaction on his face. He must be tapping Norman Baker's telephone.

Mowlam denies jobs plan for prisons

Nicholas Watt on letter that has raised fears about price of peace

MO MOWLAM is fighting plans by Jack Straw to increase the rights of prison officers in Northern Ireland, prompting accusations that she is laying the ground for a wave of redundancies if a political settlement is reached in the Province.

In a leaked letter, which will embarrass Dr Mowlam as the talks enter the final stretch, *she rebuffs attempts by the* Home Secretary to extend a *Pay Review Body to Ulster* because it would weaken the Government's hand in negotiating cuts in prison officers.

Ministers are planning to release hundreds of terrorist prisoners from the maximum-security Maze Prison in the wake of a settlement in Northern Ireland, which will lead to scores of redundancies among prison officers. One ministerial source said: "We have to accept that prisoners are part of the problem and releases will have to increase in the event of a political settlement."

The Northern Ireland Secretary set out her objections to *extending a Pay Review Body* to Northern Ireland prison *officers in a letter to Mr Straw* on 16 March. In the letter, *which has been passed to The Times*, Dr Mowlam said she was concerned about the inflationary impact of the body on pay awards and "the loss of direct negotiations with trade unions as a lever in securing reductions in staffing levels and changes in working practices".

She added: "While I recognise that it is open to us to negotiate separate arrangements for Northern Ireland I do not believe that, in practice, this is a feasible or realistic option." Dr Mowlam insisted last night that her objections to the Pay Review Body had nothing to do with the political talks. She said: "This was not related to peace. This is about looking at efficiency savings year on year. It is more related to the Comprehensive Spending Review. *I want to make* sure the prisons are safe and *efficient*."

However, Unionists seized on the leaked letter as proof that the Government is already drawing up plans to release prisoners if Ulster's political parties reach an agreement by the April 9 deadline. Jeffrey Donaldson, the Ulster Unionist MP for Lagan Valley, said: "This is yet more evidence of behind the scenes dealing by the Northern Ireland Office to appease the paramilitary groupings, including their prisoners."

Ian Paisley jnr, the justice spokesman of the Democratic Unionists, said: "This shows complete contempt for the rights of prison officers. It also shows complete contempt for the people because the deal *has already been done*."

The Prison Service has offered *to set up the Pay Review* Body throughout the UK to appease prison officers after the Government refused to repeal legislation banning industrial action at prisons. Finlay Spratt, the chairman of the Prison Officers' Association in Northern Ireland, said that Dr Mowlam's resistance to extending the body was "despicable" because in opposition, Labour had promised to restore their union rights.

ROSS PARRY



Pinky and Perky, the Kleinmann's tortoises being looked after by the RSPCA after being sold by two sailors

Police mount hunt for rare tortoises

POLICE have launched a search for a pair of the world's *rarest tortoises after two* Egyptian sailors were caught selling them in Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire, for £10 each (Paul Wilkinson writes).

The four-inch long Kleinmann's tortoises from Libya are one of the ten most endangered creatures in the world. Experts estimate that there are only 1,500 left. RSPCA inspector Alan Horan said: "Tortoises are a protected species and it is illegal to bring them into this country. Normal tortoises are worth several pounds each, but these are priceless."

When the sailors were arrested, they had two tortoises left. They were taken to Grimsby police station where police christened them Pinky and Perky and placed them in protective custody until the RSPCA arrived. They have *now been adopted by the* International Tortoise Trust, based in South Wales, and will be making the journey to their new home later this week.

Yesterday the sailors were each jailed for four months by Grimsby magistrates. Abd-Elhamed Ebrahem, aged 42, and Ali Soliman Ibraham (cor), 46, both admitted importing and offering for sale an endangered species.

Blair calls 2000 bug emergency

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR has ordered his *ministers to operate on an* emergency footing to ensure *that the threat posed by the* millennium computer bug *does not affect vital services or* the country's infrastructure.

Every major service has been told to install a contingency system in place in case their computer systems crash when computers fail to register the year 2000 date change.

The new Whitehall unit to be based at the Cabinet Office will monitor action being taken across the country and in key public services. The priority areas are power, telecommunications, finance, defence and transport. Mr Blair signalled his new approach to the threat in a speech yesterday *when he announced £97 mil*lion extra government money to help business to combat the problem. He said: "Whether the gas, water and electricity companies, the benefits agency or the transport system, these are the parts of the infrastrucutre that we cannot afford to fail in the next two years. We need to act locally and nationaliy.

"But it would be foolhardy not to prepare for the possibility of failures. Every organisation must put in place contingency plans in case failures occur in its own systems *or in other people's*."

Margaret Beckett, President *of the Board of Trade, is* chairing a Cabinet sub-committee that will study the millennium bug threat to all the key public services. She is responsible for ensuring the safty of the nuclear energy industries and the key utilities as well as getting the message to all businesses.

David Clark, the Public Service Minister, is ensuring computer compliance in all government departments and agencies. George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, has the most sohisticated technology in place to ensure Britain's *defences are not compro*mised. His department is *credited in Whitehall for being* the most professional millen*nium bug team.*

Yesterday Mr Blair announced an extra £97 million to be spent on dealing with the threat — £70 million alone for the recruitment of a new team of 20,000 bugbusters and for help to small and medium-size companies. He has boosted the funds for Action 2000, the public body set up to raise awareness of the bug, from £1 million to £17 million, and has announced £10 million aid to help developing countries.

Friendly role for military

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MILITARY attachés, often seen as middle-ranking service officers approaching retirement, are to have their image transformed under the Government's strategic defence review.

They are to change from being official "spies" and arms export promoters to becoming "*conflict preventers*". George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, wants the services' best officers to become attachés to won countries that still regard Nato as a threat.

Mr Robertson has won the support of General Sir Charles Guthrie, the Chief of the Defence Staff, in turning "defence diplomacy" into a special military mission. At present there are seven missions, including home defence *and support for Nato. Defence* diplomacy is to become the *eighth mission.*

Mr Robertson sees this new emphasis as such *an important change in thinking that he* wants officers who are commanders of regiments, warships or air squadrons to become defence attachés.

The most senior defence attachés at present serve in Washington, where the head of the defence staff is a major-general and the naval attaché a commodore. Key posts for *the new appointments will* include Moscow, Kiev, and *many of the countries of the* former Soviet Union where doubts remain about the West.

Plan for votes on local tax

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT plans unveiled yesterday to modernise town hall finance will give council tax payers the opportunity to vote directly on the amount their local authority charges them each year.

Councils will be encouraged to hold annual referendums on their budgets to test whether *their spending proposals* reflect local opinion. Voters may be asked to choose *from* four or five spending plans or they may simply be asked whether a single proposed budget is acceptable.

The Government, banking on the belief that people do not like to vote tax increases upon themselves, is hoping that the referendums will act as the most powerful curb yet on town hall spending. Figures published by the Government yesterday showed that the *average council tax increase in* England was 8.6 per cent this *year with some areas facing rises of up to 16 per cent.* The Local Government Minister Hilary Armstrong said yesterday that the proposals were all about "boosting people power."

Unveiling three consultation papers on local government finance, she said: "We are committed to strengthening the way councils account to their people for their actions ... we want councils that actively involve local people in decision-making and respond *to their priorities.*"

NEWS IN BRIEF

Unions still in dispute over recognition plan

Union leaders were still at loggerheads with the Government over workers' rights following a meeting with the Prime Minister at Downing Street last night. The TUC executive will today discuss firm proposals on union recognition which were put to them by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, last week. But union chiefs are extremely unhappy with some proposals and will put their own "bottom line" to Mrs Beckett at another meeting tomorrow.

The main sticking points are the proportion of the workforce which need to be balloted on union recognition and whether small businesses should be exempt.

Leading article, page 19

Davies to stay on

Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, has secured his Cabinet place for another year after confirming that he will seek election as the first "Prime Minister" of the Welsh Assembly. Tony Blair has told Mr Davies he is to remain in the Cabinet until the assembly elections next year and, if successful, might stay on as Welsh Secretary for a three-month interim period. But Mr Blair ruled out Mr Davies or any other Labour MP combining the roles for a longer period.

Farming chief fined

The head of Scotland's farmers was fined £400 after admitting charges involving animal cruelty. George Lyon, the newly-elected president of the Scottish National Farmers' Union, was fined £250 at Rothesay Sheriff Court for allowing the transportation of seven ewes from Rothesay, on the island of Bute, to Stirling auction market when they were unfit to be moved, and £150 for allowing one ewe to be caused uneccesary pain and distress.

RAF's nuclear role ends

The RAF will lose its nuclear role from midnight with the withdrawal of its WE177 freefall bombs. The bombs, introduced in 1966, were due to have been withdrawn by the end of the year, after a pledge by the Conservative Government in 1995 to limit Britain's nuclear force to the Trident missile submarines. A Ministry of Defence spokesman said that the WE177 was an ageing and costly weapon to maintain and considered unnecessary with the Trident in service.

Sculptor 'not morbid'

A sculptor accused of stealing human remains from the Royal College of Surgeons yesterday vehemently denied having a "morbid fascination with death". Anthony-Noel Kelly told the jury at Southwark Crown Court that he found beauty in anatomy and only wanted to "demystify" death. He said he did not believe he had done anything wrong in taking the anatomical specimens because it was a natural continuation of his work. The trial continues.

Film directors protest



More than 1,000 British film and television directors, including Alan Parker, right, and Ken Loach, launched a campaign to persuade broadcasters to pay them "a fair share" of the money made by their works. Unlike writers, performers and other creative contributors, directors receive an inclusive fee and do not share in overseas sales, showings on other channels or through video cassette rental.

Irvine breaks house rules

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, has broken building regulations by making alterations to stables at his Scottish retreat, Argyll and Bute council has found. Inspectors said that, although planning permission was not needed, the creation of a games room at Loup House on the Kintyre peninsula did require a building warrant. It is understood Lord Irvine will have to apply retrospectively.

Free processor upgrade.

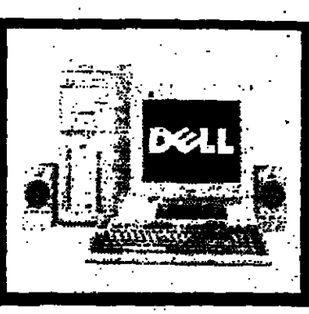
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Rally driver 'shunted couple to their deaths'

Jury told crash victims sacrificed to skilled motorist's impatience in the outside lane, **Adrian Lee** reports

A YOUNG couple were killed when an impatient driver shunted their car off the road, the Old Bailey was told yesterday. Jason Humble, 33, a rally enthusiast, was said to have used his powerful vehicle to bump their Ford Fiesta three times from behind because he wanted to get past them.

The couple, Toby Exley, 22, and his girlfriend Karen Martin, 20, died when they veered off the outside lane of the A316 in Hanworth, southwest London, at more than 50mph, went through the central reservation, and into the path of oncoming traffic.

Mr Humble, unemployed, of Farnborough, Hampshire, drove off and later abandoned the car he was driving, a three-litre ex-police Vauxhall Senator. It was owned by a friend, who subsequently reported it stolen. In interviews with police, Mr Humble denied driving dangerously, and said: "I think I'm the best driver ever."

He denies two charges of manslaughter and two counts of causing death by dangerous driving last October. David Perry, for the prosecution, told the jury that it might remember the case, which had received wide publicity, because the culprit could not at first be traced. There had been reports that it might have been a contract killing or connected to drugs dealing.

"The truth is that it was pointless and random," he said. "Toby Exley and Karen Martin died because the defendant became impatient with them. He used his skill as a driver, if skill it was, to nudge their car out of the way."

Mr Exley, a chef, and Miss Martin were on their way back from an evening at the pub. Mr Exley was driving and his girlfriend was in the front passenger seat. The road, which links London with the M3, was busy at 8.50pm as both cars travelled west. Mr Humble followed Mr Exley for some distance and became frustrated when he could not get past, said Mr Perry.



Killed: Karen Martin and Toby Exley



Mr Humble had driven rally cars as a hobby for 15 years. "You will hear it said that he can do things with a motor car that other drivers cannot do," said Mr Perry. "You will have to consider that one of the things he did in this case was to force another vehicle, because he was impatient that he could not get by it, off the road."

Bryan Gill, 40, a school teacher who was riding a motorcycle, described how he made a mental note to watch out for a white Senator after it went pass him on the inside. After the next roundabout, he saw the car drive closely behind a Fiesta. "The bonnet of the white car came up behind and pushed into the back of it. I was quite upset." Twice more he watched the white car drop back then accelerate and bump into the other vehicle. The final time "he shoved the Fiesta quite a lot". The Fiesta started to go sideways and there was smoke from the tyres. He saw the central barriers fly into the air.

Humble was not arrested for more than two weeks after the crash. By then, he knew that two people had died and that police were anxious for witnesses yet he did not come forward to clear his name, Mr Perry said. The innocent sometimes did stupid things, said Mr Perry, but the jury must decide whether this was the behaviour of a guilty man.

In interviews with police, Mr Humble was said to have told Detective Sergeant Christopher Jones: "I never rammed him, no way. He was driving like a prat. He was only doing 35 in a 40, making me wait." Mr Humble said he had flashed his lights, then the other driver tapped his brakes and the back end of the car went out. "He then corrected it and lost it big time and went over the central reservation. He just could not handle it."

Mr Humble was said to have cried during interviews, and said that he was ten miles away before he fully realised there had been a crash, and had panicked.

Mr Perry said that although the speed involved was up to 70mph, there was no damage to the back of Mr Exley's car. That was not unusual, he said, because both cars were travelling in the same direction at the three points of impact. "Although slight traces of cannabis and cocaine were found in Mr Exley's body, there was no suggestion that his driving was impaired," he said.

The trial continues.



Jason Humble had driven rally cars as a hobby for 15 years, the court was told. He was said to have driven away from the London crash scene, below



Police examine violent record of Fulham fan killed in brawl

By Daniel McGrory

WHILE leading politicians, including Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, expressed their sympathy in the Commons yesterday after the death of the Fulham football supporter in a brawl in Gillingham on Saturday, detectives continued to investigate Matthew Fox's violent background.

Kent police have been contacted by many Fulham fans who portrayed the well-built, shaven-headed 24-year-old printer as someone who has been involved in hooliganism at various football grounds.

A police source said last night: "Matthew Fox had previously been arrested for violent offences and we are still investigating his behaviour on the day he died."

It is understood that video footage from security cameras capture Mr Fox in violent confrontation with opposition fans. Fulham supporters who were at the game accused him of trying to incite violence during and after every game he attended.

Yesterday, Fulham Football Club's chaplain read a statement from his family which said: "His main passion was his love for Fulham and his beloved Hammersmith End where he could often be heard singing at the top of his voice."

Kevin Keegan, Fulham's Chief Operating Officer, said the club would give the family its every support. Later a club spokesman said they knew nothing of Mr Fox being involved in any violent behaviour.

Yet a senior supporter, who still holds a position within the club told *The Times* how he asked Fulham directors to ban Mr Fox from the ground. He said Mr Fox was expelled from the official supporters' club in September 1994 after being involved in a fracas on a train in which a fellow Fulham fan was beaten. The club was also asked to investigate Mr Fox's part in a campaign issuing death threats against Ian Branfoot, a previous Fulham manager. "When I asked for an investigation, my life was also threatened," the source said. He added that Mr Fox would sing National Front songs and was known for "preferring to bait opposition fans rather than watch the matches he attended". Police intelligence on Mr Fox's background has been passed to the Kent force.

Detectives were still questioning one man last night about the brawl.

Ministers and football authorities sought to restore to the game's damaged reputation after recent violence and to save England's bid to host the World Cup in 2006.



Matthew Fox: tried to incite violence

Mr Straw expressed sympathy to Mr Fox's family saying: "I am sure it is the view of the whole House to extend the deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Matthew Fox, who was so brutally murdered — but also to express profound anger against the reappearance of this kind of football hooliganism."

Home Office officials said they were not aware that any information about the victim's past had been passed to Mr Straw before his statement.

Glitter charged over child porn

By Simon de Bruxelles

THE pop star Gary Glitter was charged yesterday with possessing pornographic images of children on his home computer. The 53-year-old singer was charged under his real name, Paul Francis Gadd, during a pre-arranged interview after his return at the weekend from a three month-holiday in Cuba.

Glitter, who has homes in London, Somerset and Havana, was charged with 50 offences of making indecent pseudo-photographs of children under the age of 16, contrary to the Child Protection Act of 1978. He faces 50 alternative charges of possession of indecent photographs of children under the age of 16.

A spokesman for Avon and Somerset police said that Glitter had been released on bail to appear at North Avon magistrates court on May 18.

Inquiries began on November 18 last year when staff at PC World in the Cribbs Causeway shopping centre in Bristol alerted police to images allegedly found in a computer which had been brought in for repair. Last week police said they wished to arrange a further interview with Glitter. The singer arrived at Staple Hill police station, Bristol, shortly after 11am.



Glitter yesterday: he is contesting allegations

Glitter's solicitor, Henri Brandman, said Glitter had been in Cuba with his girlfriend, Yudenia Sosa Martinez, 25. Mr Brandman said: "Gary will be vigorously contesting these allegations. Since he has now been charged neither he nor I will be making any further comment. He is in good spirits and I anticipate that he will be continuing with his career."

Joyrider left to die on doorstep

By Simon de Bruxelles

A TEENAGE joyrider seriously injured in a car crash has died in hospital 14 hours after being left on a pensioner's doorstep by friends.

Daniel Pope, 14, suffered serious head injuries when a stolen Metro turned over at high speed. Four other youths who escaped uninjured carried the unconscious teenager 50 yards to the home of an 80-year-old widow, rang the doorbell and ran away.

Yesterday doctors turned off his life support machine after declaring Daniel brain dead. The youngster lived half a mile from the scene of the crash. As relatives gathered to comfort his mother, his brother-in-law, Rodney Walker, said: "Daniel was a bit of a Jack the lad. He liked to make people laugh. We are all shattered."

Daniel was the front seat passenger in the seven-year-old car, which was seen racing round the crime-ridden Honicknowle estate in Plymouth, Devon, before it hit a kerb, rolled over and crashed upside down. He was bleeding heavily as he was carried by his friends to a row of cottages. They left him on the pavement beside a hedge, ran back to the car to collect their coats, then fled.

Mrs Smith, who is partially deaf, was watching television and did not hear the bell. The alarm was only raised because a neighbour, Phyllis Bennett, 76, went to investigate the commotion.

Daniel was taken to Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, where he was put on a life support machine, but doctors said yesterday that he had had no prospect of recovery. Police admitted that car crime was a problem in the area, and condemned the other joyriders, believed to be aged between 10 and 15, for abandoning him.

Sergeant Alex Johnstone said: "It is a very callous act to drag a seriously injured boy up the road to a house and leave him there in a position where he was nearly dying. The others ran off to save their own skins."

A 15-year-old youth was last night helping police with their inquiries.

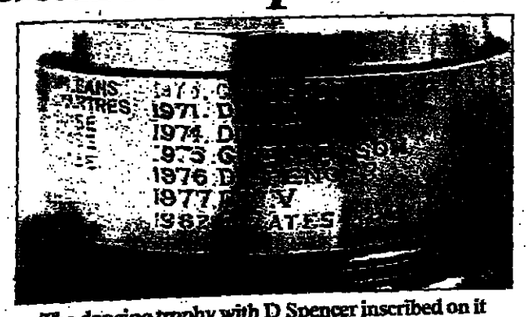
Diana dance cup fetches £7,000

By Damian Whitworth

A piece of silverware it was valued between £15 and £20. But closer inspection of the names inscribed on the cup showed that in 1976 it was presented to one D Spencer. It sold at auction yesterday for £7,000 and is now owned by a tabloid newspaper.

The Dancing Cup that the future Diana, Princess of Wales, won when she was 15 and still dreaming of becoming a prima ballerina was the star lot yesterday at an auction of the contents of her old school, West Heath in Sevenoaks, Kent.

The school closed last year, a victim of falling rolls, and yesterday old girls and former teachers wore their dejection bravely as everything from gym kit and blackboards to oil paintings and polypropylene plastic stacking chairs went under the hammer. More than 2,000 lots were knocked down at breakneck speed but for the silver cup awarded to the Princess at speech day for excelling at tap and ballet, the bidding battle between rival newspapers became a blur.



The dancing trophy with D Spencer inscribed on it

The Mirror emerged victorious, but was coy about exactly what it planned to do with its trophy. Diana Macfarlane, a first cousin and schoolmate of the Princess's at West Heath, who came to watch the auction, said: "I am a great sentimentalist and would have much rather it went to someone else who has their name on it, or was connected with the school. Perhaps *The Mirror* will give it to them."

Other objects with less obvious connections with the Princess fetched more reasonable prices. An oak lectern that she used in 1987, when she opened the Rudge Hall gym where the auction was held, went for £320. Framed photographs from that day fetched £380 and plaques recording that visit and a tree planting that marked the birth of Prince William were bought for £320. A Steinway piano, which was estimated to fetch £8,000-£12,000 was bought by the musician Richard Stilgoe for £21,000.

Proceeds from the sale will pay debts owed by the school when it was taken into receivership last year. The receiver, Deloitte & Touche, has invited offers for the building and grounds, with a deadline of April 15.

This year April Fool's Day is on April 6th.

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Companies do battle over the definition of passing water

Philip Delves Broughton reports on a less-than-fragrant dispute in the High Court

TO flush, or not to flush, was the question as a battle over urinals came before the High Court yesterday. A company which purports to make a near waterless urinal is being sued for damages and accused of fraud by a washroom services company that had agreed to sell its revolutionary device.

The services company says the claim that the urinal is near waterless is false. The manufacturer, however, claims the washroom services company has breached the contract to sell its product. Valerie McLean dreamt of being the Thomas Crapper of the late twentieth century, changing the way man passed water.

After three years of hanging around gentlemen's lavatories, Mrs McLean thought she had developed an environmentally friendly, water-saving device that also made lavatories smell fresh.

She took out a patent on her device and entered a contract with Washroom International to sell it. When they began fitting WhiffAway, however, all was not well. Washroom International maintains that buyers were disappointed to find that smells did not disappear, and that the urinal needed a regular flow of water to work properly.

Mrs McLean's product worked using an S-bend in which there was a mushroom-shaped trap that let urine through but did not let smells back up. Users found, however, that the S-bend would get blocked up without a flow of water through it. Mrs McLean claims that this is a fitting rather than a design problem. Washroom International disagreed and made a contract with another waterless urinal maker, IQ, whose system now graces motorway service stations and the offices of *The Times*. The IQ Waterfree Urinal System works by using a one-way valve. The urine flows out, but no smells return.

A pointed chrome cap sits on the drain at the bottom of the urinal bowl and lets off fragrances. The urinal needs servicing every few months, and the bowl needs regular cleaning, but the system is technically waterless.

Last Novemeber, Mrs McLean obtained an injunction forcing Washroom International to stop selling the IQ system, an injunction which has since been overturned. Now Washroom International has counterclaimed for damages for the inconvenience and loss of earnings caused by the injunction, and for fraud, arguing that Mrs McLean made false claims about her product. Mrs McLean claims Washroom International knew exactly what it had agreed to buy and had breached the contract by agreeing to sell the IQ system as well. The case is expected to last eight days.

Rantzen accused of unfair report on hospital

BY CAROL MIDGLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A BBC documentary presented by Esther Rantzen was condemned by a television watchdog yesterday for being "misleading, inaccurate and unfair". The edition of the series *The Rantzen Report* was also criticised for invasion of privacy within a hospital.

The documentary, broadcast in 1996, made allegations about the respected British Home and Hospital for Incurables in South London. It accused the hospital of neglecting Ian Parker, one of its most disabled patients, and failing to stimulate him. Secret filming was also carried out on the premises.

The Broadcasting Standards Commission yesterday upheld a complaint against the programme made by the BHHI. Its finding comes after an internal investigation by the BBC cleared them of any blame.

It will be a particular blow to Ms Rantzen, who asserted that her "journalistic integrity had been completely vindicated" by the BBC and may raise questions about her impartiality. She has been criticised in the past for bias towards sufferers of ME, the condition that affects her daughter.

The *Panorama* journalist John Ware wrote an article in a Sunday newspaper alleging that the BHHI documentary undermined the BBC's reputation for integrity by twisting facts.

The BHHI claimed it had been subjected to false allegations without the opportunity of reply and had its privacy infringed. In its finding, the BSC said secret filming of Ian Parker in the hospital "was unjustified and amounted to an unwarranted infringement of privacy".

It added it may have given the impression that BHHI "had something to hide which necessitated exposure by undercover methods" and amounted to a "fishing exercise" for evidence.

An inaccurate claim that Mr Parker had not been taken to a fête was unfair to the hospital. Ms Rantzen was not available for comment yesterday.

Abbey organist to sue over his suspension

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey is taking legal action against the dean and chapter of the abbey after his suspension.

Martin Neary said yesterday in a statement that he and his wife, Penny, completely denied the allegations against them and had placed the matter in the hands of their solicitors.

Although the details have not been disclosed, the allegations concern the administration of the abbey's music department and centre on a number of foreign concerts performed by the choir, including a recent trip to Oslo.

Dr Neary was advised last week that he was to be suspended, leaving his work in the hands of his three assistant organists. He was given to understand that the matters were so serious they could result in his eventual dismissal.

The abbey had at one stage considered a civil action, but is now not intending to take the matter before a court.

Last night friends of Dr Neary, who is President of the Royal College of Organists, said he was deeply upset by allegations.

Christopher Compston, a circuit judge, who has offered to intervene to resolve the dispute, called for an overhaul of the abbey structures in an attempt to avoid future management difficulties. Judge Compston, whose son Rupert, 10, is an abbey chorister, said: "I really do think that nowadays these great bodies, which have enormous power and a lot of money and employ a lot of people, should come under some form of jurisdiction. The old feudal fiefdoms must go. There should be an overhaul of the structure."

He added: "This is all extremely sad. Dr Neary is a talented musician who has done the abbey considerable service for ten years, as has his wife, in a quiet and kindly way. Although I make no judgment on the actual facts, if true at all they do seem to be very minor. It seems to me that this affair has been blown out of all proportion."

Judge Compston pleaded for the Christian spirit to prevail at the abbey. "I have offered to try to resolve things," he said. "I would like people to shake hands, solve some minor points and have a good Easter."

The dispute represents a clash between tradition and modernity in the Church of England. Dr Wesley Carr, the Dean of the abbey, arrived last year from Bristol Cathedral, where he was known as an imaginative and efficient moderniser. The changes were fast to follow.

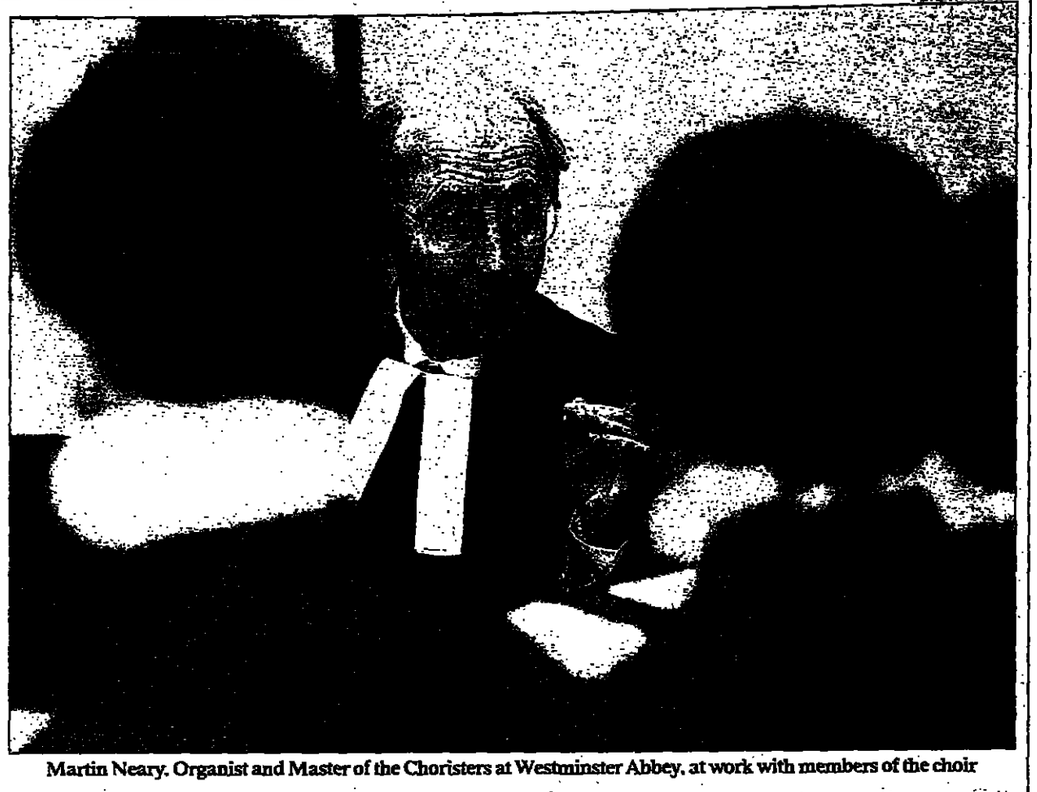
He set in motion a programme called "recovering the calm", introducing crowd controls to restore peace in an environment which had become so noisy and crowded it was compared to King's Cross station on a bad day. Entry charges of £5 were introduced to the nave, security cameras installed and volunteers aged over 70 were dismissed.

Dr Carr has been a pioneer in bringing more accountability to the nation's cathedrals, heading a church working party which led eventually to important legislation going through the General Synod on this subject.

Dr Neary, who has been at Westminster Abbey since 1988, is at the peak of his profession as a church musician. Like his predecessor Henry Purcell, he began his career as a chorister at the Chapel Royal. An organ scholarship student at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, moved to the abbey from Winchester Cathedral, where he achieved a reputation as a brilliant choral conductor of contemporary and baroque music.

Frank Field, the Minister for Welfare Reform and a high-church Anglican, last night added his voice to those defending Dr Neary. Accusing the Abbey of attempting to try his friend in a "kangaroo court", Mr Field protested that the authorities had failed to say precisely what charges he faced. Not even a "tin pot employer" would send a letter like the suspension letter sent to Dr Neary.

PETER NICHOLLS



Martin Neary, Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey, at work with members of the choir

Master who works with the best

BY RICHARD MORRISON

IN THE cloistered but intensely competitive world of church music, the choir of Westminster Abbey ranks alongside St Paul's Cathedral and King's College, Cambridge, at the top of the premier league. Evensong is sung with impeccable taste and precision; scarlet cassocks are superbly tailored, surplices starched to crisp perfection.

Money makes the difference. Westminster Abbey, one of the richest churches in the land, has a vast choral budget that allows boy trebles to be given extremely generous scholarships to Westminster Abbey Choir School, from where most would usually progress to Westminster or one of the other top public schools. That guarantee of a top-class education is the bait that attracts the most outstanding voices in the land.

For professional men singers, too, the financial advantages of the abbey are substantial, and great state occasions can earn individual singers television fees that can run into hundreds or (as in the case of the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales) thousands of pounds.

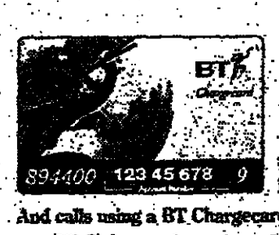
Nevertheless, there is no doubt that the abbey choir performs brilliantly for its money. The marvellous singing at the funeral last September, at less than a week's notice, was a case in point.

For all of this, Martin Neary is responsible. Though considered something of an austere and straitlaced musician (his universal nickname in the bitchy choral world is Dreary Neary), the 58-year-old organist has set superlative standards.

But if he has fallen out with the abbey's clerical authorities, it would not be unprecedented. His predecessor, the brilliant organist Simon Preston, quit the job after six years, telling friends that he found the atmosphere intolerably stifling. A successful cathedral organist will always be open to accusations that he is using the cathedral choir to further his own career and glory. But at the abbey, it seems, the clash of competing egos is intensified by a hothouse atmosphere rife with snobbery and jealousy.

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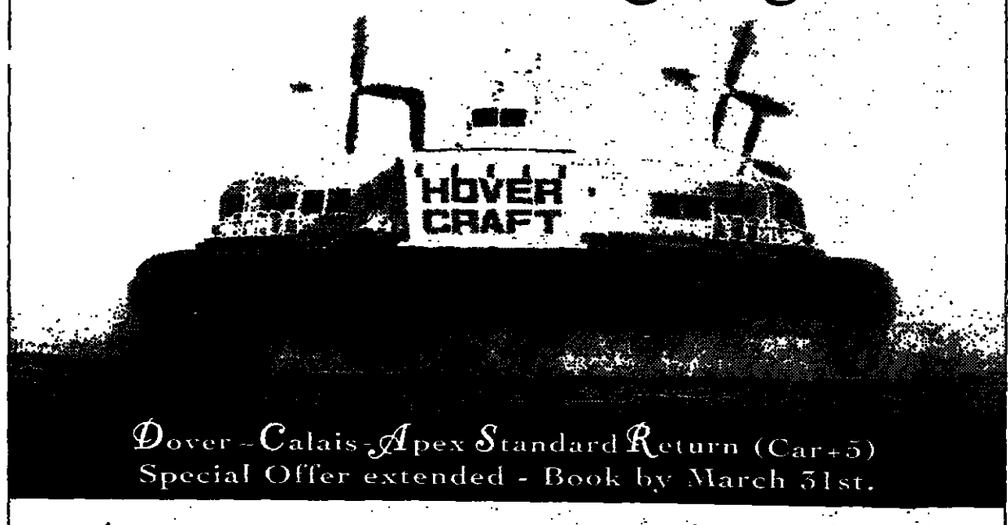
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Woman boxer wins first round to gain licence

Tribunal ruling backs Fleetwood Assassin against British Boxing Board, reports Russell Jenkins

A WOMAN fighter, known in the ring as the Fleetwood Assassin, won the first round in her fight yesterday to become Britain's first licensed professional female boxer.

Jane Couch, 29, the Women's World Welterweight boxing champion, has won her claim for sexual discrimination against the British Boxing Board of Control over its refusal to grant her a licence to box professionally.

The fighter, named after her home town in Lancashire, claims that the board refused her a licence because of her sex, preventing her from earning her living in this country.

She took her claim to an industrial tribunal in Croydon, South London, last month. The panel's written judgment in her favour opens the way for Miss Couch's solicitors to sue the board for loss of earnings and hurt feelings and to reapply to the board for a licence. Her corner said last night that it was only the opening blow in a wider fight for equal rights for women in professional boxing.

The judgment was welcomed by the Equal Opportunities Commission, which said that Miss Couch was a victim of outdated attitudes and should be allowed to pursue her chosen career.

The boxing board said only that their members would be meeting to "consider a remedy". The tribunal panel heard that Miss Couch could expect to earn between £10,000 and £20,000 every two months if she were licensed.

The boxer told the tribunal that she had to turn down a £10,000 purse to fight at Wembley Arena last year.

At the tribunal, Miss Couch's counsel, Dinah Rose, said that the board had rejected her licence application after 20 minutes' deliberation and had not asked to see her.

They gave seven reasons for refusal, all on medical grounds. The board contended that premenstrual tension makes women more liable to accidents, more emotional, unstable and prone to injury. They also cited painful periods, fluid retention and risk to an unborn baby.

Ms Rose told the tribunal: "The true nature of their objection is the crudest form of stereotyping and at its root it is about distaste felt by many in this last bastion of male-only sport." She said the board's medical theories belong to the same "distinguished history" that had suggested women's wombs would fall out if they ran in marathons. There was no credible medical reason why women should not compete in boxing as they do in rugby, ice hockey, karate and equestrian sports, she said.

Adrian Whiteson, the board's medical adviser, denied they were "dinosaurs seeking to exercise male tyranny". He said that hormonal changes made it difficult for women to make their weight and damage to breasts could produce fatty lumps. Miss Couch, who weighs in at 10st and is 5ft 7in, said she does not suffer from PMT or painful periods and has a pregnancy test before every bout.

She has fought hard for respect in America. She beat the reigning champion, Sandra Geiger, in May 1996 in Copenhagen to win the Women's World Welterweight title and has successfully defended it. She has been offered up to £50,000 to fight.

The British Boxing Board of Control issued a terse statement last night. It read: "The board has noted the decision of the tribunal but can make no comment until the board members have had an opportunity to consider it, along with their medical and legal advisers. The tribunal has given the parties a period of 42 days in which to meet and consider a remedy and this is a matter which will also be considered by the board."

RICK STEWART



Jane Couch, left, slips through Leah Mellinger's guard during a bout at Ledyard, Connecticut, which she won in the tenth round

Families see film of sunken trawler

BY GILLIAN HARRIS
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE families of four fishermen who died when their trawler sank a year ago watched in silence yesterday as an underwater video of the wreck was shown in court.

Relatives saw the body of George Pattison, the skipper, floating in the wheelhouse of the *Westhaven*, which sank in calm waters 120 miles off the coast of Aberdeen on March 10, 1997. The video, played on the first day of a fatal accident inquiry, also showed ropes snagged around the Arbroath trawler's propeller, and fishing gear that appeared to be tangled in an oil pipeline.

The *Westhaven* was fishing close to the Claymore oil field when it sank. Mr Pattison, 38, was on the telephone to his brother Gordon, who was fishing nearby, when the nets became snagged. The boat was dragged to the seabed so quickly that one of the liferafts was caught in the mast and a second failed to inflate. Mr Pattison and his crew, Alan Cunningham, 28, Chris Prouse, 23, and Mark Hannah, 30, died.

Yesterday Gordon Miller, the captain of the ship that sent down remote-controlled cameras the day after the trawler sank, said there were four oil pipelines in the area.

A draft report of an investigation by the Marine Accident Investigations Branch criticised Mr Pattison, the Aberdeen coastguard and the Marine Safety Agency for the confusion that arose over the *Westhaven's* distress signal and the subsequent delay in an attempted rescue.

The inquiry, at Aberdeen Sheriff Court, continues.

£1m peace appeal by father of IRA victim

BY A CORRESPONDENT

COLIN PARRY, whose young son was killed when two IRA bombs ripped through a shopping centre at Warrington, launched a £1 million appeal for peace yesterday.

Mr Parry, the father of 12-year-old Tim, who died after the explosions five years ago, has given up his job to raise funds to finance a peace centre in the Cheshire town.

The idea was first aired in 1994, a year after the bombing in which a second child, three-year-old Johnathan Ball, died and 56 people were injured on the day before Mothering Sunday. Mr Parry, now a full-time organiser for the Tim Parry/Johnathan Ball Trust, hopes to reach the £1 million target in three months — a challenge set by Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, during a visit to the town on the fifth anniversary of the blast.

The former personnel manager said: "We want a residential centre where young people from Northern Ireland, or indeed anywhere there is conflict, can come and learn to break down the stereotypes that stand in the way of understanding. While the politicians chip away at a framework for peace, we are working at a community level and it is the communities that will make or break the peace process."

Dr Mowlam has pledged support for the "tremendously worthwhile project". She said: "At such an important time in the Northern Ireland peace process, yet again the people of Warrington have exemplified the balance between looking forward to the need for reconciliation while remembering all who have suffered."

Lamppost adverts head for streets

BY MARK HENDERSON

CITY centre lampposts may carry 4ft advertisements this autumn under plans to raise millions of pounds to help to pay for street lighting.

Up to 20 local authorities hope to put up the boards, which could bring in £130 a week in prime positions on main roads. The councils would keep at least half the profit.

David Pugh, chief executive of Mills & Allen, the outdoor advertising firm that designed the boards, said he estimated the market for lamppost advertising could be worth £15 million a year within five years. Councils could easily sell space on 2 per cent of their lamps without cluttering the streets or detracting from the adverts' impact.

Revenue would help to pay the £250 million annual cost of Britain's 6.75 million lampposts and ease the burden on council taxpayers. Many local authorities already leave some street lights unlit to save energy.

The new poster unit, named RoadShow and designed by the architect Patrick Davies, a former partner of Lord Rogers of Riverside, went on display yesterday at the Victoria and Albert Museum's *Power of the Poster* exhibition in London.

The units are 4ft by 2ft 8in and have two backlit poster panels. The boards hang over the pavement and are fronted with "vandal-proof" reinforced glass.

Mr Pugh said: "It is a major step forward for outdoor advertising in Britain, although at the moment it is a concept rather than the final draft."

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Globe's authentic touch in a nutshell

BY VICTORIA FLETCHER

GROUNDLINGS at this year's season of plays at the recreated Shakespearean Globe Theatre in London may find themselves standing on an authentic Elizabethan mixture of crushed hazelnut shells and Thames mud.

The idea stems from archaeological findings at the site of the Rose Theatre in 1989, where hazelnut shells mixed with alluvial mud, lime and ash were found covering the central area where the poorer Elizabethans could stand for half price.

Whether the shells were put down to break up the mud or if they are the remains of years of enthusiastic hazelnut consumption — the Elizabethan version of popcorn — is still unclear.

The Globe's quest for authenticity led to Turkey, one of the world's largest hazelnut producers. Barry O'Sullivan, appeals co-ordinator, said: "When we phoned up offering to take eight tonnes of their waste produce, the farmers were delighted. They have 500,000 tonnes to get rid of every year."

The mixture now spread on the ground in front of the stage is a trial to see how it sets. Tiffany Foster, press officer at the Globe, said: "Obviously we don't want the audience sliding around in a mud bath if it rains, so if this doesn't work we will have to replace the mud with very unauthentic cement."

Theatre, page 38

£8,000 fine for a record that was not the Hoople

Fan realised the greatest hits album was fake, **Helen Johnstone** reports

A KEEN fan of the 1970s pop group Mott the Hoople was delighted to add a greatest hits album to his collection of their music. But Phil Holbrook's delight turned to dismay when he listened to the mail order compact disc.

He immediately realised that the singer he was listening to was not Ian Hunter, who he had seen perform nearly 30 times last year. To make matters worse, a court was told, the backing band was not the real thing either.

Mr Holbrook's keen ear resulted in the record company K-Tel being fined £8,000 yesterday when it admitted two charges under the Trade Descriptions Act of supplying a CD with a false description. The company was also ordered to pay £1,488 costs by magistrates at Fareham, Hampshire.

The court was told that Mr Holbrook, a 42-year-old computer programmer from Warsash, near Fareham, soon realised that the CD was a poor take-off. He said after the hearing that even his 14-year-old daughter, Ellen, could tell the difference from the band whose antics at the Royal Albert Hall in the Seventies closed the venue to rock music for years.

"Ian Hunter played 50 dates in the UK last year and I went to 27 of them, three with my daughter," he said. "I'm a real fan of his and I suppose I spent around £1,200 following him last year."

After listening to the CD, which supposedly featured Mott the Hoople classics such as *All the Young Dudes*, *Roll Away the Stone* and *All the Way from Memphis*, he reported it to Hunter's management, who contacted trading standards officials. The court was told that the CD notes stated that those tracks, along with five new ones, had been re-recorded in 1993.

K-Tel had purchased them and other recordings from 1970s bands that included Paper Lace, the Byrds and the New Animals. K-Tel said it had followed normal industry procedures and had been happy with the songs' authenticity.

When originally contacted by Hunter's manager, the company had stood by its CD, explaining that when it purchased the tracks it was told that the singer's vocals had been remixed to strengthen them.

Michael Bromley-Martin, for K-Tel, said the company was told the remixing had been done with Hunter's knowledge and permission. However, the court was told, Hunter was outraged when he heard that his name and that of Mott the Hoople were being used. In a written statement to the court, he said: "We had not recorded together since 1989. I can categorically state it is not me singing and that the singer is deliberately trying to imitate me."

When K-Tel realised last August that the recordings could not have been made in 1993, it withdrew the album from sale. Mr Bromley-Martin said. He added that K-Tel had done the deal through Danny McCulloch, a former member of the Sixties band the Animals, with whom it had dealt successfully before.

Mr McCulloch had since disappeared and K-Tel had spent 18 months trying to track him down in America. Mr Bromley-Martin added: "It did not occur to K-Tel that he was putting forward recordings that may not have been genuine. He lied to K-Tel about the age of them."

He said that if Mr McCulloch reappeared K-Tel planned to instigate proceedings against him.

After the hearing Andrew Slee, from Hampshire Trading Standards, which brought the prosecution, said it was an important and unusual case that sent out a warning to record companies to be diligent in checking the accuracy of recordings, however old they might be.



The real thing: Mott the Hoople with, centre, lead singer Ian Hunter, and below, the bogus compact disc



Pieman cut down on beef to save jobs

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A PIEMAKER who cut back on the beef in his products to save his staff's jobs when the BSE scare hit sales was yesterday given a conditional discharge by magistrates who took pity on him.

Dennis Dutch faced a fine of up to £20,000 for replacing some of the filling in his brand of Clark's pies with vegetables and gravy. The pies have been a staple food in the Cardiff region since Dutch's grandmother, Mary Clark, devised the recipe 90 years ago. But when the BSE crisis struck, sales dropped by half from 1,000 a day and his bakery in Cardiff was losing £600 a week.

None of his customers appeared to notice when the meat content of the pies, known locally as "Clarksies", dropped below the legal minimum of ten per cent and was topped up instead with extra gravy and onions. Dutch's dodge was discovered when trading standards officers carried out a random check. The 90p pies contained 6.1 per cent meat and were in breach of the Consumer Protection Act.

Cardiff magistrates said Dutch, 67, who pleaded guilty, had been "well-intentioned but misguided". Martin Prowel, for Dutch, told the court: "He knew his staff had families to support and he was desperate to keep them in work. Cutting the meat saved him £100 a week to help offset the losses he was suffering.

"He is a man of the utmost integrity who is proud of the business started by his grandmother, Mary Clark. The recipe for Clark's pies has never changed since her day and are still regarded as a value-for-money product."

Removal van barred from a mother's final journey

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

SHORTLY before her death at the age of 94, Grace Hayden made it clear she did not want her family to go to unnecessary trouble or expense for her funeral. Her son Brian followed her wishes.

Mr Hayden, a second-hand furniture dealer, was furious when a crematorium refused him permission to deliver his mother's body in his high-top furniture van. Yeovil Crematorium said it would not go under the front canopy and the coffin would have to be carried from the car park.

Instead, Mrs Hayden, a former schoolteacher, was driven to the crematorium in the back of a friend's off-white Volvo estate, her coffin shrouded beneath a favourite candlewick bedspread. Mr Hayden, 59, of Templecombe, Somerset, believes he saved about £1,300 making the arrangements himself, despite encouragement to have a funeral director.

It cost a total of £406 to buy the coffin, hire a local woman to lay out the body and pay for the cremation. A friend carried his mother downstairs a few minutes before the coffin lid was screwed down.

Mr Hayden, who had been caring for his widowed mother since she moved down from Gillingham, Kent, said: "The crematorium tried to push us to use a funeral director, which we did not want. We know some gypsies near by who are brilliant musicians and they played at the funeral along with two members of the West Country Concertina Association."

Fran Kelso, a close friend who helped to organise the funeral, claimed: "Staff at the crematorium even grilled me about how many coffins I had carried. They asked, 'What if you drop her?' and I said I didn't think she would complain."

Yeovil Crematorium said yesterday: "The van was too high. It would have meant carrying the coffin from the car park."

World Beat

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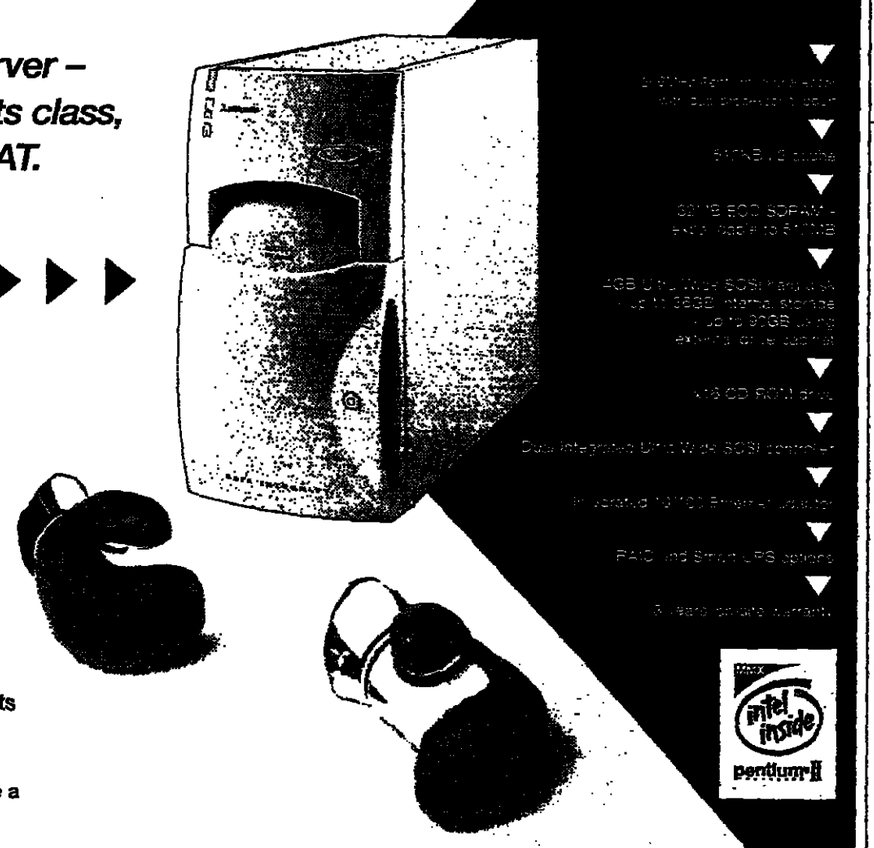
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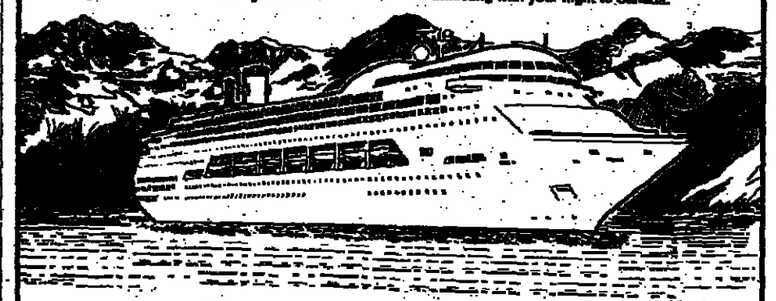
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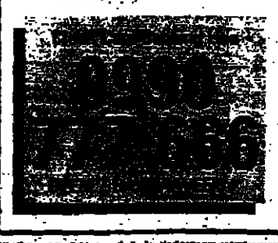
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Teachers moonlight to save school

Faced with loss of jobs to pay for essential repairs, staff raised £42,000. **Paul Wilkinson** reports

ROSS PARRY



Mr Brown at Wrenthorpe Primary School. He faces a constant battle to keep the school open and has applied for £1 million for a new building

A HEAD teacher and two of his staff took on second jobs to raise more than £40,000 for their crumbling Victorian school. Roger Brown earned £32,000 in 12 months and his colleagues £10,000 — enough to save the jobs of two teachers after essential maintenance had been paid for.

An application for £1 million for a new building has been made to the Government's New Deal for Schools programme, but in the meantime the 407-pupil Wrenthorpe Primary School in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, is plagued with damp, leaking roofs and crumbling plasterwork.

Mr Brown said: "It is a very poor building. It's depressing when you go in and find children's work curled up because of damp." He said that one grandmother who visited the school said that conditions were as bad as they had been 70 years ago.

He fights a constant battle to keep the school open. Its heating system is so antiquated that it cannot be turned off, and radiators leak so much that holes have been drilled in floors to drain off the water.

Last year Wrenthorpe spent £42,000 on essential work. Mr Brown said: "When we examined the deficit, we were looking at making two members of staff redundant. It seemed to us that, rather than push class sizes up and substantially lower staff morale by going through the redundancy project, we would raise the money throughout the year."

He, Doreen Redmond, the deputy head, and Maggie Hirst, the Year Three teacher, agreed to take on additional duties. He said: "We have done that and avoided the redundancies. It has been a team effort, with all the staff involved, in addition to the three doing second jobs. When we were doing the extra work, the other staff had to take on our roles."

Mr Brown is a qualified Ofsted schools inspector and spent 60 days heading a team checking eight schools across northern England. Mrs Redmond acted as head and other staff shared her teaching duties. Mrs Redmond and Mrs Hirst helped to train teachers at Leeds University and Bretton Hall College, near Wakefield, the money from their extra duties going into school funds.

Mr Brown said: "There has been a lot of pressure involved and I am not going to do it next year. I can't keep up the pace. Fortunately, my wife, who is a teacher at another school, can see the problems and understands why we are having to do it. She has been very supportive, we haven't had a holiday for a year."

This year the school faces a £17,000 deficit, but parents hope they will be able to raise the money. An Easter fair last weekend raised £600. "That's a start," Mr Brown said. "We shall look at every way possible, but we shall come out of it.

"I feel a sense of injustice. Government nationally has to look at the way money is allocated to schools. Why should schools in other parts of the country get more than we do? We are trying to do the same job in similar circumstances.

"We got slightly more money from the Government this year than last. Hopefully they are going to assess the situation properly. There is a lot they have to look at."

A spokesman for Wakefield LEA said that it had been seeking capital funding for the school without success. Replacing the school building under the Government's Private Finance Initiative had not been ruled out.

Banished pupils lose two million days of learning

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MORE than two million schooldays were missed by children expelled or suspended from the classroom last year, The Children's Society said yesterday.

The society called for a guarantee of full-time education for excluded children, to prevent them falling behind, and said that schools should be fined for barring pupils to discourage head teachers from taking the step.

The number of children expelled reached 13,500 last year — a threefold rise in three years — and each missed an average of 125 days of the 190-day school year. This accounted for about 1.7 million lost days. Temporary exclusions, when children are ordered home to "cool off" for a few days, accounted for another half a million days.

Ian Sparks, chief executive of the society, called for a guarantee of full-time education for the excluded children. They currently receive part-time home tuition, often amounting to no more than a day a week, at twice the cost of normal schooling.

"Exclusions amount to state-sanctioned truancy," Mr Sparks said. "When children as young as four are being excluded, it is clear that there is a crisis in our primary schools. Excluded children often get very limited educational support, while parents are left to cope with work and childcare arrangements at very short notice.

"Some pupils fall further behind and become disillusioned and disruptive in class." In the society's study of persistent young offenders, 18 out of a sample 19 were excluded or truanting.

The national picture was calculated from responses from 64 local education authorities in England and Wales. The survey revealed disturbing practices, Mr Sparks said. One secondary school suspended or expelled pupils 469 times in a year, two for each school day. A primary school recorded 48 in a year and one local education authority had 24 times as many exclusions as another of comparable size.

The Department for Education said the Social Exclusion Unit would report at Easter on new ways of tackling truancy and exclusions.

Special report, pages 22, 23

NEWS IN BRIEF

Car driver jailed for killing pedestrian

A drink-driver who killed a woman after his sports car mounted the pavement has been jailed for six years. Bobby Singh fled the scene but soon returned, saying: "I was driving too fast. I hope to God I have not killed her."

He was 2½ times over the limit, Chester Crown Court was told. Singh, 26, of Moulton, Cheshire, admitted causing death by dangerous driving at Davenham in November. Karen Southern, 37, who had three children, was walking home from bingo.

Mugging misery

A pensioner will miss her chance to meet the Queen next week because she has been mugged. Noreen Squire, 84, from Portsmouth, who was to help in the Maundy charity ceremony at the city's cathedral, fractured her pelvis when she fell in the robbery.

Water fine

South West Water was fined £3,000 by magistrates at Truro, Cornwall, for contravening the conditions of its licence. The company admitted not switching on ultraviolet equipment at its plant in St Agnes to kill harmful bacteria in sewage.

Heritage help

A new National Lottery scheme to improve historic town centres has been announced. Townscapes Heritage Initiative replaces one run by English Heritage and will extend grants to projects in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Arresting ploy

WPC Jayne Moyce, 29, overpowered a woman armed with a 14-inch knife after tricking her into checking her shoelaces. Winchester Crown Court adjourned the sentencing of Linda North, 34, of Liphook, Hampshire, who admitted attempted wounding.

CORRECTIONS

☐ The High Court did not award Annie Lindsell the right to choose the timing and means of her own death (article, March 24). There was an order by consent, at Ms Lindsell's request, for permission to discontinue the case.

☐ Gifford and Partners is the archaeological consultant in connection with work on the second runway of Manchester airport (report, March 20).

☐ The crisps maker Smiths which is suing its insurers for damages over a scratchcard promotion (report, March 27) is the Dutch, not the UK, company.

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Rolls-Royce fans will challenge sale to BMW

Rival bidders are angered as the motoring legend goes to Germany for £340m, writes Alan Copps

ENTHUSIASTS determined to keep Rolls-Royce Motors in British hands refused to give up yesterday despite the announcement that a £340 million bid from BMW had been accepted.

Michael Shrimpton, head of the Rolls-Royce Action Committee, said: "This is by no means the end of things. We are consulting with our financial advisers today. We had already given [parent company] Vickers notice that we were about to put in a bid and we still intend to do so."

The announcement by Sir Colin Chandler, chief executive of Vickers, that the bid by BMW — which already owns the Rover Group — had been accepted in principle left a number of disappointed contenders. They include Volkswagen, venture capital group Doughty Hanson, and another British group led by Kevin Morley, a former Rover executive.

BMW already supplies the V12 engine for Rolls-Royce's latest model, the Silver Seraph. Mr Morley said: "I am disappointed that this quintessentially British marque is now going to Germany. My bid was marginally below BMW's offer but I was not given the access to the company that they had."

But Mr Shrimpton insisted that yesterday's announcement would not be the end of the story. It's not all over until the fat lady sings — not that I'd compare Sir Colin Chandler to a fat lady," he said. "But this decision is the view of the Vickers Board and not of the Vickers shareholders. There must be a mandatory extraordinary general meeting at which the 16,000 Vickers shareholders can put their view. I have no doubt there will be some concern at a price as low as £340 million."

He said company rules allowed a statement on behalf of interested parties to be sent to shareholders. Although he was a Vickers shareholder himself, as a bidder he could not make a direct appeal to shareholders.

Mr Shrimpton said that although there were no talks at present, his group would be willing to discuss the possibility of a combined British bid with Mr Morley's group.

Another disappointed British bidder emerged as Douglas Llambias, a City figure who owns the Business Exchange consultancy. He said that he had made an indicative bid higher than the BMW figure to Vickers' advisers Lazards, but it had been ignored. It would have kept the company in British hands and given Vickers a continuing interest.

Vickers has invested more than £200 million over the past three years in new models and in improvements to the firm's factory at Crewe, in Cheshire, which employs more than 2,500. About 60 per cent of the staff have been retrained for new models, although the interior trim of wood, leather and lambswool carpets is still hand-finished in the traditional way that established the marque's reputation as "the best motor car in the world".

At Crewe, Steve Taylor, an officer at the Rolls-Royce Works Committee, said: "I think most of the workers are saddened that the last bastion of British car manufacturing is being lost. They're obviously all concerned with their jobs. No takeover can ensure instant safe jobs for the existing employees." But not all Rolls-Royce enthusiasts were dismayed by the announcement. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of the National Motor Museum, whose father was one of the pioneer drivers who helped to build the marque's reputation for excellence, said: "There are two important things; one is that Rolls-Royce should continue to exist and be well-funded in the future by a company with the resources and expertise to maintain its reputation.

"The second is that the cars should continue to be made in England. The experience that Rover has had with BMW fills me with optimism. However much I sympathise with these enthusiasts, I think it's most unlikely that they could offer the resources needed. We have to learn that we live in the age of the global cars."

It was in 1904 that a Manchester engineer, Henry Royce, met a millionaire's son, Charles Rolls. Rolls-Royce was formed two years later, with the company's first model going on sale for £395. British royalty has long been associated with Rolls-Royce — the Queen has five. Other famous owners have included Lenin, Franco, Mussolini, Haile Selassie and Mao Zedong. Charlie Chaplin, Greta Garbo, Fred Astaire and Rudyard Kipling all had Rolls-Royces. Lawrence of Arabia drove into Damascus in a Rolls in the First World War and said: "A Rolls in the desert is above rubies."

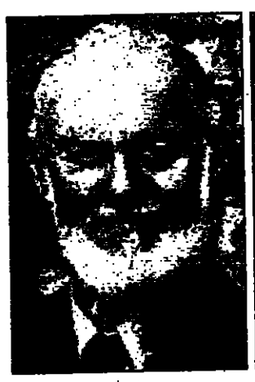
A Rolls-Royce carried Field-Marshal Montgomery around Europe in the Second World War.

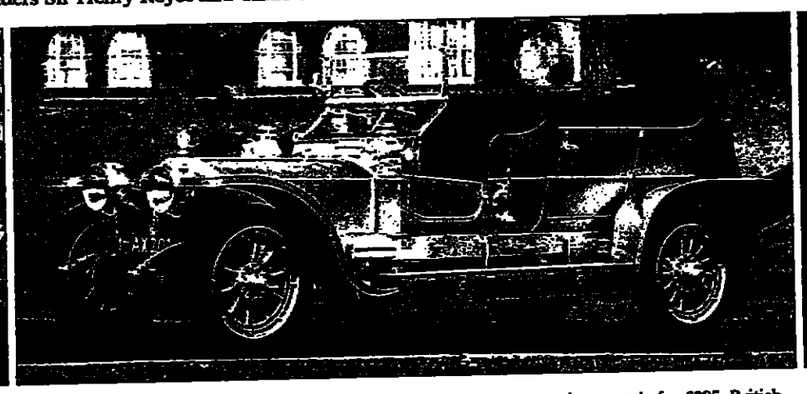
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LOUISE BULLER



The Rolls-Royce emblem, Spirit of Ecstasy, is polished by commissionaire Mike Edwards at the Jack Barclay Rolls-Royce dealership in London. Below, founders Sir Henry Royce and Charles Rolls flank a 1907 Silver Ghost, which started the legend on its road to fame







TRAFFIC NOT ALL ONE WAY

BRITISH FIRMS OWNED BY OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Rover: sold by British Aerospace to BMW for £800 million in 1994

Jaguar: Cars: now owned by US motor giant Ford

Cornish: bought by Norwegian engineer group Kvaerner in 1986

ICL: bought up by Japanese giant Fujitsu in 1990

Rowntree Mackintosh: bought by Swiss Nestlé ten years ago

The Dorchester: bought by the Sultan of Brunei in 1987

South Western Electricity: bought by Southern Company of Atlanta, Georgia, in 1997

Baring's: taken over by Dutch Bank ING in 1995

Northumbrian Water: now owned by French group Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux

Comet: South Central: owned by French Sea Containers

BRITISH-OWNED INTERNATIONAL NAMES

Sainsbury and Wesson: owned by British conglomerate Tomkins

Häagen-Dazs, Burger King, Quaker oats: owned by food giant Diageo, created by merger of Guinness and Grand Met

Bagpuss: American television series, bought last year by Pearson

EMI: owns the Americana record label Capitol Records

Dr Pepper: bought out by Cadbury's

Brooks Brothers: American chain owned by Marks & Spencer

J Walter Thompson and Ogilvy and Mather: leading advertising agencies, owned by the British holding company WPP

Stagecoach: the Scottish bus company owns Hayling Island Ferry, New Zealand Railways, Portugal, Africa and Brazil



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Campbell memos to be investigated

Pressure on Tony Blair's aide is growing, reports **Andrew Pierce**

A COMMONS examination of the conduct of the Prime Minister's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, was extended yesterday to cover his bluntly worded written rebukes to two senior ministers.

The pressure on Mr Campbell, one of Mr Blair's closest allies, intensified when a senior Labour MP publicly criticised him for the first time. The inquiry into his part in the alleged politicisation of the Civil Service will now cover whether his written warnings to Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, and Frank Field, the Minister for Welfare Reform, had the authority of the Prime Minister.

It was the second time in a week that the inquiry, which also involves Sir Richard Wilson, the Cabinet Secretary, was extended to cover the activities of Mr Campbell, who was already due to give evidence. He will also be challenged over allegations that he misled the media about the details of a telephone conversation between Mr Blair and Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of the News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*.

In two faxes Mr Campbell chastised ministers for "congenital briefing", blamed them for a series of uncontrolled leaks, and demanded to know why interviews with the media had not been cleared through his office. Ms Harman declined to comment on the memos yesterday but Mr Field admitted that he had been "told off".

Sir Bernard Ingham, who was Margaret Thatcher's press secretary, said that he would not have kept his job if he had written to ministers in such blunt language. "I would have been fired," he said. "It's disgraceful. He is a Labour Party appointment but he is a civil servant.

"It is an abuse of power by an unelected official. If these ministers had the guts they were born with they would stand up to Mr Campbell and slap him down."

Rhodri Morgan, the Labour chairman of the Public Administration Committee, criticised Mr Campbell for speaking down to ministers. He said that there was a "control freak tendency" in the Government. Mr Morgan told BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*: "Alastair Campbell is a temporary civil servant talking down to ministers and administering a ticking off in this way — unless he had the full authority of the Prime Minister.

"If I had been a minister I think I would have been pretty upset about the tone of those, unless the first line was 'Tony Blair has told me to tell you that you're quarrelling in public and it's time you stopped it, you're playing around like children, and I am administering this ticking off on behalf of the Prime Minister'. We will be asking the obvious question that everybody will want to know: to what extent should civil servants such as him write letters like this to ministers unless they have the full authority of the Prime Minister?

"And if they do have the full authority of the Prime Minister, wouldn't it be better if the memo actually states it?"

Directors of information in the Civil Service, who were forced out or left after Mr Campbell took over at Downing Street, will be called before the committee to describe their experiences of the Blair regime.

Mr Morgan added: "Most of them presumably will wish to show their dissatisfaction with the new regime under Alastair Campbell for whatever reason."

Yesterday the Tories renewed calls in the Commons for the Prime Minister to make a statement to the House on his contacts with Mr Murdoch. Downing Street insisted last week there had been "no impropriety" after *The Times* reported that Mr Murdoch had used information obtained directly from Mr Blair in making a decision about the attempted acquisition of an Italian television company.

Tim Collins, MP for Westmorland and Lonsdale, said that Mr Blair's officials were giving a great deal of "rapidly changing information" to the press on the subject. He added that officials had "quite scandalously abused and insulted journalists who have written perfectly proper and accurate stories".

Nicholas Soames, Tory MP for Mid Sussex and a former minister, suggested that it was extraordinary that the Prime Minister "has not come to this House to make a statement on why he intervened on behalf of Mr Murdoch in a commercial deal in Italy".



PAUL TREACY



John Prescott playing an energetic part in the London referendum campaign and, above right, failing to shine

Prescott tries to show a safe pair of hands

THE Deputy Prime Minister threw his weight about yesterday in a display of his goalkeeping skills at Wembley Stadium. John Prescott, launching the Government's £750,000 publicity campaign for the London mayoral referendum, sought to keep out the opposition with a string of fine saves. But after managing to tip one shot over the bar, he was beaten on the ground and had to rest and be content with catching his breath. The Government's campaign is aimed at ensuring a high turnout at the referendum, which will be held on May 7 to coincide with local council elections. Voters will be asked whether they support plans for a Greater London Authority comprising a directly elected mayor and assembly.

MPs should consider move to a smaller House

THE preservation of Parliament's pomp and pageantry says a lot about our attachment to traditional rituals but nothing about the power of the Commons. The former is about symbols, while the latter is about substance. The real issue of parliamentary reform is how the legislature scrutinises the work of the executive.

The Government's record since last May is mixed. Ann Taylor, Leader of the Commons, is often underrated because of her Labour right-wing background and her low-key style. But as anyone who has talked to her knows, she is committed to reform of the procedures of the Commons and is fully aware of the changing political environment in which the House will have to operate.

Reform of the Commons always proceeds slowly because of the opposition of two opposite, but influential, vested interests. First. Opposition parties are always suspicious of changes that might be seen to threaten their theoretical, in practice largely illusory, power to hold up government business. Second, government whips dislike any changes that might strengthen the role of the Commons and make their control of business less predictable.

In the current Parliament, Tony Blair and other senior ministers have shown little interest in the Commons, producing a *de facto*, if not *de jure*, separation of powers. For most eager Blairites, accountability to Parliament is a duty, and at times a nuisance, but not a central part of their political lives. Their commitment to parliamentary reform often appears little more than mouthing conventional pieties.

The Select Committee on Modernisation, which Mrs Taylor chairs, has done some useful work, notably in trying to improve the way that legislation is examined. In future, there should be greater consultation, both before Bills are published and afterwards. This will allow time for improvements to be made in the hope of avoiding disasters like the legislation on dangerous dogs and the Child Support Agency. That alone would deal with many of the public's complaints about the work of the Commons, but the proposals are essentially discretionary and much will depend on the attitude of the Government whips — so don't build up expectations.

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Modernisation Committee has not yet addressed the central issue of accountability, and whether the Commons and its Select Committees need strengthened powers of scrutiny. At present, the Government can brush aside proposals that it dislikes. For instance, last autumn, the Treasury Committee suggested a limited form of confirmation hearings for members of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, who do, after all, now have the power to set interest rates and hence affect the level of the pound. The idea was dismissed by the Treasury on the classic grounds that it raised wider implications which could not be considered in the time available. There has, in fact, been no collective discussion by ministers. So the proposal has been voted down as the Bank of England Bill has proceeded through Parliament.

The Government's constitutional agenda is getting increasingly out of synch with the pace of parliamentary reform. There has been no serious discussion of the implications for the Commons of devolution. But further changes are inevitable as the Scottish parliament and Welsh assembly start work in less than two years since the Westminster MPs from Scotland and Wales will be in an anomalous position. Whatever happens on electoral reform, we are moving to a very different Commons over the next decade.

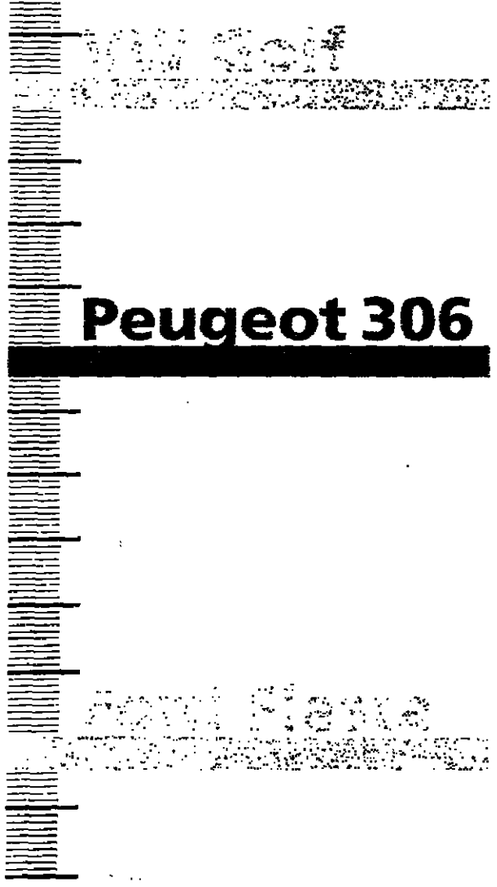
The House may, and should, be smaller. There will be fewer debates on the floor of the Commons and a greater focus on select committees. That, rather than electronic voting or the familiar state rituals, is what MPs should be considering.

PETER RIDDELL

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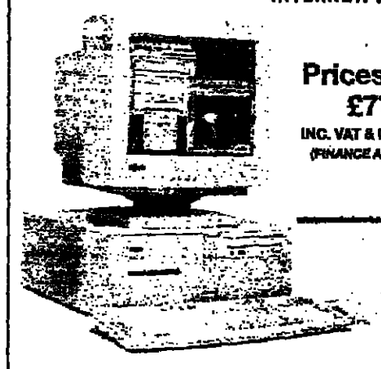
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Flames race along highway of destruction



The fires now devastating the Amazon rainforest were kindled by Brazil almost 30 years ago, Gabriella Gamini writes

MARIE HIPPENMEYER / AFP



Fire rages through forest near Mucajai in Roraima state, northern Brazil. An area equivalent to a quarter of Britain has been engulfed by the inferno in 90 days

THE fires ravaging Roraima, Brazil's northernmost Amazon state, for the past three months have left an apocalyptic landscape. The 280-mile Amazon Highway runs below a dense, asphyxiating smoke cloud and crosses a dozen dried river beds and flatlands, where skeletal buffalo scavenge for food among charcoaled remains.

Built in the 1970s as part of a military plan to open the Amazon to development, the highway is a symbol of the destructive policies that led to the fires now destroying irreplaceable rainforest fauna and flora. The road opened the way for an influx of small-scale farmers and large landowners. Between 1978 and 1996, Roraima's population rose from 80,000 to 300,000. Each family grabbed a piece of land and burnt down forest.

In 90 days, the fires have engulfed a quarter of the state — itself about the same area as Britain — and are spreading fast. They were started when the annual burns ran out of control. "In effect this terrible fire, which destroyed a big part of the world's largest remaining rainforest, began 28 years ago when the authorities encouraged the exploitation of Amazon lands," said Reinaldo Barbosa, of the government-funded National Institute of Amazon Research.

The worst drought in decades — with no rain for six months — has provided virtually endless fuel for the flames. The fact that there is no government control of agricultural burns has exacerbated the situation. The 280-mile drive from the border with Venezuela to the banks of the Rio Negro, where Roraima and the reaches of the fire ends, was a journey through the worst environmental calamity to occur in the Amazon this century. The smell of burning permeated the air.

The 12-mile dirt track, off the main highway, that leads to the Tarepangi and Macuxi Indian villages ran past reddish-brown vegetation consumed by the fires. Tall palm trees tumbled as their charcoaled trunks gave way. Blackened hardwood tree trunks lay on the ground like bodies after a massacre.

"The Indians are going hungry. Water supplies are also running out — they have lost a large part of their ancestral lands," said Walter Blos, an official of Funai, Brazil's official body representing indigenous groups.

Last week the fire had reached the village of Bananal, home to 150 Tarepangi Indians, destroying all their crops and several straw huts. "The flames were so fast and so overpowering we could do nothing to save our crops," said Avelinho Tarepangi, the village chieftain. "We have lost our livelihoods and our lands are no good for hunting or growing foods anymore."

Back along the highway, between Pacaraima and Boa Vista, capital of Roraima, I saw at least 20 fires enveloping secondary jungle between razed savanna. It took only minutes for flames to eat up green palm trees and less to turn bushes into ash. Clouds of smoke added intensity to the suffocating heat, which along most of the way did not drop below 45C (113F).

Boa Vista has been shrouded in a thick layer of smoke for weeks. Its hospitals are overcrowded with cases of pulmonary infections and other respiratory problems. Visibility is so bad that regular airline flights have been cancelled for days and small aircraft and helicopters used in the rescue operation have also had difficulty taking off.

From Boa Vista to Mucajai, the landscape is made up of a seemingly endless line of desolate cattle fields. Vultures hover over cows that have evidently perished of hunger and thirst. Here were signs of the severe drought that has fuelled the fires and has left even wide rivers like the Mucajai only 8in deep.

From Mucajai to Caracarai, there was one ranch after another, evidently carved out of rainforest. Jungle areas surrounding the farms were all alight at different points. As we approached Caracarai — the last town in Roraima — every ranch along the roadside had been swept by flames.

In one, farmhands resorted to using a tractor to dig a trench to contain flames, which within 20 minutes reduced a two-mile-long savanna area, dotted with trees, to a carpet of black ash. "It came from the forests behind us and has destroyed most of my ranch," said João da Conceição. But ironically, it is the decade-old policy of encouraging the exploitation of Amazon rainforest that sparked the fire sweeping over ranches. Enviromentalists have said that, unless the Government stops encouraging random forest-clearing, most of the Amazon could disappear in ten years. The 500-yard-wide Rio Negro, which runs along the border between Roraima and Amazonas state, has so far stopped the fires from spreading across. But in all of Brazil's four Amazonian states, the practice of slash and burn is uncontrolled and the future appears bleak.



El Niño will disrupt weather until May

Geneva: The climatic phenomenon known as El Niño continued to produce freak weather around the world last month and extreme conditions will still take place until May, a World Meteorological Organisation report says today.

Drought still gripped much of South-East Asia, which experienced one of its driest February months on record. In contrast, the month was one of the wettest yet for North and South America, with rain in some coastal areas of Pacific Latin America at least 2.9in above normal. The current El Niño, judged probably the most powerful climatic pattern of the century, also brought turbulence in temperatures. Globally, 1998 had the warmest February on record, with the combined air and sea temperature over land and sea-surface 0.75C (1.35F) above normal.

That was the highest yet departure from the 1961-1990 norm for any month since 1856, says the report — the fifth to be published. *(AFP)*

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

MEET NICK HORNBY



Nick Hornby, the best-selling author of *Fever Pitch* and *High Fidelity*, will be talking about his new novel, *About a Boy*, at a Times/Dillons Forum. Hornby will read extracts from the book and answer readers' questions about his work.

Chaired by Lynne Truss, *Times* columnist and comic novelist, the forum will take place at 7.30pm on April 7 at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London, WC1. The admission price of £10 (concessions £7.50 for students, pensioners and the unemployed) includes £2 off copies of *About a Boy* (Gollancz, £15.99).

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Yeltsin refuses to name successor

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN said yesterday that he would not be contesting Russia's next presidential elections, but ruled out nominating a successor, even Viktor Chernomyrdin, his trusted former Prime Minister.

In a move partly calculated to dampen speculation that the upheaval in Russian politics was designed to smooth the way for Mr Yeltsin's third term in office, the Kremlin leader insisted that he would bow out when his presidency ends in 2000.

"We need a strong leader and, bearing in mind that I, so to speak, am not taking part in the elections, we need reinforcements," the Russian leader told journalists at the Kremlin during a visit by Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General.

However, Mr Yeltsin stopped short of endorsing Mr Chernomyrdin, who was dismissed last week but who announced at the weekend that he was running for the presidency, despite receiving only 6 per cent support in an opinion poll.

Describing Mr Chernomyrdin's decision as falling within "the general sphere of our policy", the man whom many regard as a modern tsar distanced himself from the whole notion of monarchy. "It is not right for us to think about successors," he said. "Kings have successors but we do not. It is the people that choose."

Despite Mr Yeltsin's reassurances that his decision to sack his Government was motivated by the need to speed reform, many remain unconvinced. There are still suspicions that the President and his close entourage have no intention of relinquishing power.

For instance, there has still been no explanation why Sergei Shakhrai, Mr Yeltsin's representative to the Constitutional Court, petitioned the country's highest judicial body to decide on the legality of the President standing for a third term.

Under the 1993 constitution, the Russian head of state is allowed to serve only two terms. However, in Mr Yeltsin's case the rule is ambiguous since he was elected Russia's leader two years earlier, when the country was a republic within the Soviet Union. Of more pressing concern than the debate about the next election is the real danger that Mr Yeltsin could die in office or become too ill to serve out his present term and that the enormous power concentrated in the presidency would pass to Sergei Kiriyenko, the young and inexperienced Prime Minister appointed last week.

The Communist Party, the largest faction in parliament, yesterday vowed again to vote against Mr Kiriyenko when his nomination comes up for approval this week. Mr Kiriyenko, a self-declared "technocrat", insisted that he was not going to allow himself to be bogged down by politics, but instead would get on with the job of drawing up priorities for his Government and assembling his new Cabinet.

Although he promised to introduce new faces to the ministerial line-up, a number of key figures will remain the same. It was announced yesterday that Sergei Stepashin, the former Justice Minister, will take over the Interior Ministry, which controls all law enforcement in Russia.



WIEBKE LANGFELD / EPA

Gerhard Schröeder, 53, of the German Social Democrats, is congratulated by his wife Doris yesterday after the Lower Saxon parliament re-elected him as state Prime Minister. His party's victory in regional elections at the start of the month cleared the way for him to be nominated to run in September against Helmut Kohl, 67, the Chancellor since 1982

Fugitive caught on way to see rock band

FROM DEBORAH COLLCUTT IN BONN

A GERMAN fugitive who allegedly masterminded a kidnapping that led to the largest ransom payment in Germany's history was arrested on his way to a Rolling Stones concert in Buenos Aires.

Posing as an Englishman, Thomas Drach, who has evaded Interpol for two years, was detained yesterday in the Argentine capital in connection with the kidnapping of Jan Philip Reemtsma from his mansion in Hamburg in March 1996.

The tobacco magnate's family paid £11 million for his release and two of the kidnappers were later caught and jailed. Drach remained at large until, according to information obtained by the mass circulation *Bild* newspaper, German police traced him through telephone calls to friends.

Five days ago Drach, 37, drove to Buenos Aires with his Uruguayan girlfriend for a Rolling Stones concert. Drach, who was carrying a British passport, was also wanted on charges of cocaine trafficking and possession of arms in Austria.

Ukraine Left set for poll victory

BY RICHARD BEESTON

UKRAINE'S Communist Party looked set yesterday to emerge victorious from Sunday's parliamentary elections, although a strong showing by independent candidates could check its expected landslide.

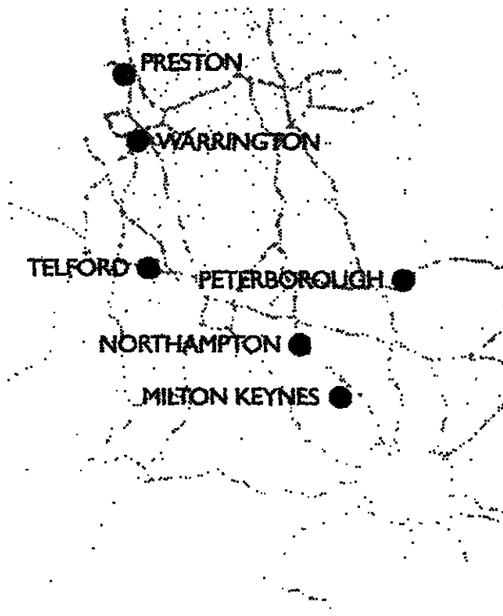
Half of the 450 members of parliament are directly elected by constituencies, the other half coming from party lists. After count delays, results from the directly elected seats were completed yesterday.

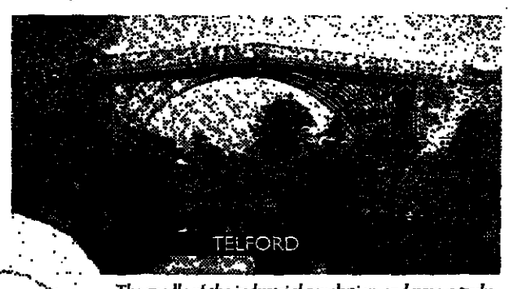
Independent candidates secured 114 places, the Communist Party 37, pro-Government People's Democratic Party 13, Agrarian Party ten, nationalist Rukh eight and Peasant Party seven.

Results for the other half of the seats are due today. The Communists and opposition allies are expected to continue their protracted battle against President Kuchma's sluggish reforms.

☐ **Presidential poll:** Armenians voted yesterday in a key runoff between two presidential contenders. Both Robert Kocharyan, the Prime Minister, and Karen Demirchyan, the former Soviet Communist Party boss, have ruled out territorial concessions over Nagorno-Karabakh.

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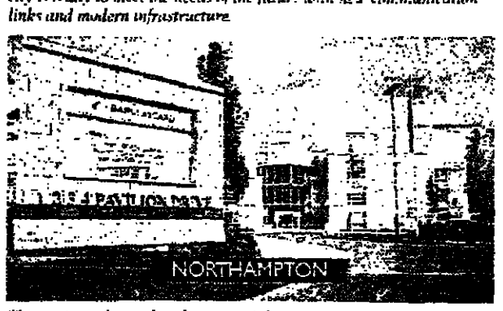
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EU beg task of

Dentist extracts payment from cl

EU begins painful task of expansion

Pushing back Europe's frontiers will be a fraught process for all involved, Charles Bremner writes in Brussels

AMID lofty speeches and sniping from Turkey, Europe embarked yesterday on the road to union with the former communist bloc and Cyprus, a marathon that promises pain for both the rich Western club and the 11 poor candidates.

Launching negotiations on behalf of Britain's EU presidency, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, invoked the Treaty of Rome, the 1957 charter of the Common Market. "We are finally overcoming the cruel and unnatural division of our continent. The vision of the Community's founding fathers of an 'ever closer union among the peoples of Europe' is another step closer," he said.

Mr Cook's rhetoric was echoed by the 25 other foreign ministers of what is due to become a union of 500 million people, producing a fifth of the world's output. "The people of Poland have been waiting for this moment for a long time," said Bronislaw Geremek, the Polish Foreign Minister, whose country is the giant of the six states singled out for the first wave of new members.

The enthusiasm was, if anything, stronger from the five "also-rans", states deemed unready for imminent absorption into the EU. "This is indeed a glorious morning for all of us ... When you are cut off from your family you get obsessed with it," said Andrei Plesu, the Romanian Foreign Minister.

Beyond the champagne toasts in an overcrowded Council of Ministers in Brussels, there was no illusion over the wrenching changes in store as the 15-member EU sheds its cosy frontiers in some five years to take in Cyprus, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Estonia and the Czech Republic.

Tension was most evident over Cyprus, whose future membership almost blocked today's start of formal negotiations. Refused any place at the enlargement table, Turkey denounced the EU yesterday for embarking on an escalation that would sharpen tension in the Aegean. Rauf Denktas, the leader of Turkish northern Cyprus, said the invitation to the Greek Cypriot Government had destroyed the inter-communal talks to settle the island's division.

Also evident was the reluctance of many EU states to confront the reforms in spending habits — notably the lavish Common Agriculture Policy — and in the EU decision-making machinery to absorb the poorer members.

Britain is eager to speed enlargement. Mr Cook sees the British-led "flying start" as the major achievement of its presidency. However, Germany and France are worried about the risks of the "double leap", in which the new members will arrive hard on the heels of monetary union, a project they all want to join. The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* said yesterday: "The EU is ill-prepared to handle the two major innovations ... We are holding our breath and hoping it doesn't crash."

For all their expressions of gratitude to the West, the Central Europeans are unhappy with the EU's delay in embracing them since the collapse of communism in 1989. The EU stragglers — Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania and Slovakia — fear relegation behind a new frontier. There is also frustration over what the future members see as excessive conditions imposed by the EU. Brussels has decreed 11 detailed programmes of reform that must be accomplished by each in return for their share of an annual £1.8 billion in EU aid.

The long negotiation starts in earnest today, when the first wave ministers open the screening process, in which the EU assesses their legal and administrative systems for conformity with the acquis, the EU's body of rules and regulations. This runs to some 90,000 pages. The optimists believe the six could start entering the EU by 2003. The second wave is not likely to join for years after that.

Turkey issues warning

Nicosia: Ismail Cem, Turkey's Foreign Minister, said that the start of Greek Cypriot membership talks with the European Union signalled a hazardous increase in tension in the eastern Mediterranean.

"The treatment by the EU of the Greek Cypriot administration as the representative of the whole of Cyprus constitutes the first step towards escalation in the eastern Mediterranean, which can be very dangerous." Mr Cem said in a visit to the Turkish northern part of the divided island. "We once again call upon the EU to evaluate its future steps very carefully before it is too late and before the Greek Cypriot administration paves the way to another war on the island." *(Reuters)*



BENOIT DOPPAGNE / REUTERS

Robin Cook with his counterparts Lena Hjelm-Wallen, left, of Sweden, and Nadezhda Mihailova of Bulgaria

Polish farmers see a churn for the worst

Milk producers think Brussels is far too ready to impose petty regulations, says Roger Boyes

SCEPTICISM about the benefits of membership of the European Union is spreading among Poles and will give an irritable edge to the long, difficult negotiations that begin this week.

The most vociferous opposition comes from farmers whose livelihood is directly threatened. But other groups are also responding to the cause of nationalist politicians to view with suspicion an EU which they claim is steered by Germany.

The Catholic Radio Maria station in Poland — with an audience of five million — has taken issue with the pro-European line of the Church's hierarchy and regularly denounces Brussels for spreading loose morals and robbing sovereignty.

When the new liberal-conservative Government approved a motorway project in Upper Silesia, the radio denounced the construction of "Hitler autobahns being built at the behest of the European Union".

A bishops' delegation to Brussels — supposed to signal the end of Church-inspired Euro-scepticism — was attacked for genuflecting in front of the Commission. A new newspaper, *Nasz Dziennik* (Our Daily), with a print run of 300,000, is calling for demonstrations against Europe. Approval rating for European membership is still high — between 70 and 80 per cent in Poland, significantly less in the Czech Republic — but is being chipped away by the day. Farmers are particularly swayed by anti-European rhetoric.

> A Catholic radio station accuses the EU of spreading loose morals

The Polish press recently cited the case of Jan Komorowski, a farmer with just three acres in a village south of Warsaw: he grows rye and potatoes, has eight cows, three pigs and free-range hens.

The farm is typical of Polish agriculture. His milk, sold at the weekly market, is praised by the local community for its creamy quality. But the dairy that buys the milk on the other days has classified his milk as being in the worst, third category, because of his ancient cooling system.

EU controllers visited Polish dairies three months ago and placed a hygiene ban on Polish milk exports. Mr Komorowski's cooler runs at 12C; the EU says that it must be at 8C or lower. Ryszard Czarnecki, the Polish Minister for European Affairs, reassured consumers that the nation's milk was not unhealthy — it was just that the EU had set its standards artificially high.

It is not only the dairy economy that is under threat. In the EU, only 5.3 per cent of the population is employed by the farming sector; in Poland it is 26 per cent. Only a third of Polish farm produce is sold on the open market — that is, only those farmers who could compete in an expanded EU, while the rest is produced for self-consumption. But these supposedly inefficient farms are performing an important social function: feeding the 900,000 unemployed who have lost their rights to full dole payments.

Polish farmers are taking to the streets and so are the Czechs and Hugarians. Czech farmers, who have been blocking border crossings to stop imported European apples being dumped on the Czech market, have triggered a row on the eve of the entry negotiations. The EU says Czech apples are not competitively priced. The Czechs say the EU is using their country as an easy market. Duties have been clamped on about half of the EU's apple deliveries. The EU has responded by putting tariffs on Czech pork.

The rows between Brussels and the entry candidates stretches over several economic sectors — textiles, glass, and steel. They are fuelled by the suspicion that European membership is being weighted in favour of the old members.

Dentist extracts his payment from client

Stockholm: A restaurateur has been forced to live on pasta and soup for four months because his dentist removed his teeth after learning that he could not pay his bill, according to press reports yesterday.

Ridha Bouhlal was left with only titanium screws in his lower jaw when his dentist took his dental implants back. The case is being seen as the most dramatic example of cuts in Sweden's public health insurance.

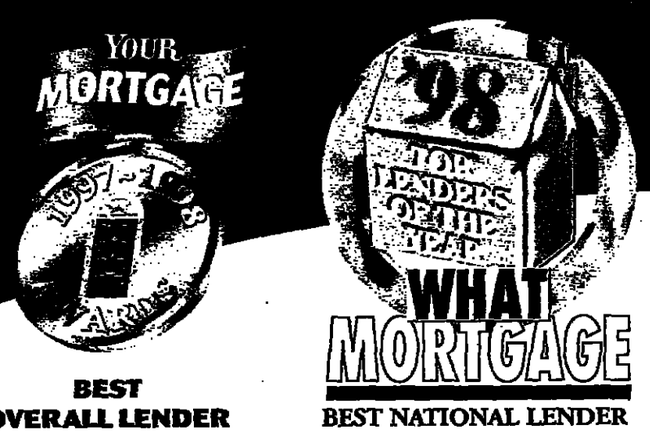
Mr Bouhlal, who owns a small restaurant, knew his implants would cost 40,000 kronor (£3,000) when he began the process. The upper jaw was done first, and he paid the 22,000-kronor bill. But by the time the final adjustment was to be made to the lower jaw, his restaurant had run into difficulty and he could not pay.

Mr Bouhlal has offered to follow a payment plan, but the clinic, supported by local authorities, has refused, arguing that he will not be able to make the payments. *(AFP)*

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Ross: his efforts are faltering

Protests by Arabs thwart peace bid

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

AMERICAN peace efforts faltered yesterday as riots, strikes and the premature explosion of a suicide car bomb marked Palestinian and Israeli Arab protests against the "the catastrophe", the creation of Israel 50 years ago.

Before returning to Washington for talks with President Clinton and Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, the American special envoy, Dennis Ross, issued a warning that the 12-month stalemate in the Middle East peace talks — which his four-day mission again failed to break — was reducing hopes for achieving a final accord.

Even as he was speaking at the Egyptian resort of Sharm el Sheikh, Palestinian mobs were clashing with Israeli troops in the West Bank. In Bethlehem, the Arabs shouted "death to America" and burnt the Stars and Stripes as they marched towards a heavily guarded Israeli enclave on the outskirts.

Hours before, a huge explosion rocked the Palestinian self-rule city of Ramallah, ten miles from Jerusalem. One known Hamas activist was killed in the blast which destroyed a car that Israeli security experts believe was being prepared for an attack on a Jewish target.

Orphans 'tortured and beaten by nuns in Australia'

BY ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

HUNDREDS of orphaned children, many from Britain, suffered public floggings, sadistic torture and sexual abuse at the hands of Roman Catholic nuns, an Australian academic said yesterday.

The brutality took place over 90 years at an Order of the Sisters of Mercy orphanage in Neerkol, northern Queensland, ending only in 1976.

The order, under investigation by the Queensland state government, has apologised for the cruelty, described as some of the worst atrocities that Australia has known. But a representative, Di-Anne Rowan, conceded yesterday that little had been done to ease the pain and suffering of the residents.

Among the young victims were 48 children who were part of a British government orphan migration programme now under investigation by a Commons committee.

The report, by Professor Bruce Grundy, contains a catalogue of terror. Among those who suffered was Helen Carter, now in her thirties. She told Professor Grundy that the nuns once thrust a red-hot poker down her back "to exorcise the Devil".

Another child almost lost her legs, which became infected after a nun pulled out troublesome ingrown toenails with pliers while other children were forced to hold her down. Yet another was severely scalded and permanently injured after a leg was thrust into a bucket of boiling water by a nun who thought that the water she had been washing in was "not hot enough".

Boys and girls were routinely violated and sexually abused by priests or men working at the orphanage, the professor said. Some girls had miscarriages and foetuses were flushed down lavatories. To hide injuries from visitors, children were locked away in the "black hole" — an underground cell — without bedding, ventilation or light.

"Madness, ruthless and sadistic madness, on the part of at least some of the nuns, and a deathless depravity on the part of some of the men who inhabited the place, are the defining characteristics of some of those who ran the orphanage," Professor Grundy claimed. "There was no limit to the sexual deviance that could be engaged in with those unlucky enough to find themselves singled out as 'the chosen ones'."

The professor, the foundation head of Queensland University's department of journalism, began his inquiries after police found no evidence to substantiate reports that stillborn babies and children killed by disease had been buried in unmarked graves.

Many boys in Australian orphanages and schools run by Catholic orders have won damages in the past few years, but few allegations had surfaced about institutions run by nuns.

The professor said of Neerkol: "Many of the children went on to alcoholism and suicide, but some, remarkably, made something of their lives. I would like to see them get justice and I would like to see those responsible prosecuted — particularly the bureaucrats and police who knew what was going on but who did nothing to stop it."



AFP

Leonardo DiCaprio plays Louis XIV and his twin in *The Man in the Iron Mask*

French accuse Hollywood of 'manhandling' their history

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRENCH critics have crossed swords with the makers of *The Man in the Iron Mask*, the new film starring Leonardo DiCaprio, over their Hollywood-style treatment of one of the most enduring mysteries in French history.

The identity of the man incarcerated in the Bastille at the end of the 17th century has never been established, and the film has rekindled debate about the prisoner.

In Randall Wallace's film, drawing on the novels of Alexandre Dumas, the man in the mask (DiCaprio) turns out to be the twin brother of Louis XIV (also DiCaprio) — a variation on the theory first popularised by Voltaire.

The film is due out in France tomorrow and French critics have taken issue with the American director's twist on the legend.

"Manhandling the history of France, the truth, and the work of Alexandre Dumas, the film-maker has given birth to Louis XIV and his hidden twin," wrote Jean-Christophe Buisson in *Le Figaro*.

Marianne magazine was still more dubious: "The French cinema-goer who knows his Dumas and his French history, depending on his temperament, can opt either for massive umbrage or complete hilarity."

The identity of the prisoner, who died in the Bastille in 1703, is unlikely ever to be known. The most likely candidates are Count Matteoli, minister to the Duke of Mantua, who was imprisoned for treachery on the orders of Louis XIV, or Eustache Dauger, a valet, apparently in the employ of the royal minister Nicolas Fouquet.

Almost the only thing that can be said about him with any certainty is that his mask was not of iron, but rather more comfortable velvet.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Neighbours watch cabbie's murder

New York: America has been shaken by the murder of a taxi driver who was beaten to death and stuffed into the boot of his yellow cab in Denver as residents watched from their windows without calling police (James Bone writes).

Police said four men pummelled Mostapha Maarouf, 27, a Moroccan immigrant, as neighbours watched from the safety of their flats early on Sunday. A Moroccan friend ran to summon help, but when police arrived they could not find the taxi driver. Only when they started making door-to-door inquiries did witnesses tell them to look in the car boot. A man was arrested on murder charges after it emerged that Mr Maarouf had parked in his parking spot.

Cash for nuclear veterans

Wellington: A total of 250 New Zealand former sailors who took part in Operation Grapple — nine British hydrogen bomb tests at Christmas and Malden Islands in the Pacific in 1957 and 1958 — have been awarded full war pensions by the New Zealand Government (Cathie Bell writes). The men served in two frigates, *Pukaki* and *Rotoiti*. The pensions will also go to 48 widows. Many ex-servicemen are now suffering blood cancers and other illnesses related to their exposure to radiation and 48 have died from cancers that their widows attributed to Operation Grapple.

200 Iraqis 'to be executed'

Nicosia: Two hundred Iraqi dissidents, held since a failed uprising seven years ago, have been moved to a notorious prison near Baghdad for execution, opposition groups said yesterday (Michael Theodoulou writes). Among them are suspected members of the Iraqi Communist Party whose exiled leadership appealed to Arab and international human rights groups to take "swift action to stop the crimes by Saddam Hussein's dictatorship".

'Black Widow' executed

Miami: Judy Buenoano, 54, a former nail salon owner known as the "Black Widow", was executed in Florida's electric chair for a series of murders including those of her husband and son (David Adams writes). There was little public sympathy for Buenoano, who never confessed to the killings, carried out to benefit from life insurance payments. She is the first woman electrocuted in the US since 1957.

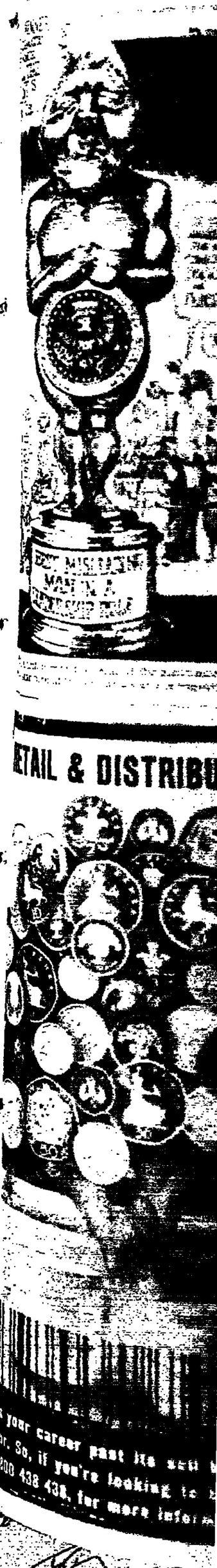
Gagarin cover-up denied



Moscow: Soviet-era investigators denied that the Government concealed the truth about the death 30 years ago this month of Yuri Gagarin, right, the first man in space. After his jet fighter crashed it was rumoured that the KGB had killed him or that he was drunk, but investigators said he had most likely made a sharp turn to avoid a weather balloon. "There was nothing to hide," the former head of air force flight safety said. *(AP)*

Caged farmer is cut free

Beijing: Chinese police, stung by media publicity, used metal cutters to free a farmer they had kept naked and half-starved in a sealed cage for three years. The plight of the farmer, 43, who is mentally retarded and has a history of violence, was highlighted when a newspaper published a picture of him locked in cage so small he could not stand. He is now in a psychiatric hospital. *(Reuters)*.



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President faces court tryst with dozen women

Paula Jones's lawyers want to subpoena bevy of witnesses, writes

Tom Rhodes

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday faced the humiliating prospect that a parade of women could testify openly during the Paula Jones sexual harassment trial in May about alleged affairs with him.

Lawyers for Mrs Jones are seeking trial subpoenas for a dozen women, including Elizabeth Ward Gracen, a former Miss America, compelling them to testify in the unprecedented trial of a sitting President.

The lawyers have said they will be forced to serve the subpoenas to secure evidence from Ms Gracen and others, including Gennifer Flowers, the former cabaret singer, and Dolly Kyle Browning, a childhood sweetheart, all of whom are alleged to have had affairs with Mr Clinton.

Ms Gracen, a star of the *Highlander* television series, has studiously avoided any pre-trial testimony, remaining out of the country since the most damaging controversy of Mr Clinton's tenure erupted in claims that he had an affair with Monica Lewinsky, a White House trainee, when she was 21.

Under American law, however, trial subpoenas may be served on individuals outside the United States to force their appearance in court. Ms Gracen and the others would be required to answer questions in the Little Rock, Arkansas, federal court about allegations surrounding their relationships with Mr Clinton. His supporters claim that the Jones team is attempting merely to gain further publicity by trying to ensnare a celebrity for the trial.

However, lawyers for Mrs Jones, the former Arkansas state employee who claims that Mr Clinton asked her to perform oral sex in a hotel room in 1991, argue that Ms Gracen is essential in providing evidence of a pattern of behaviour to reinforce the case for their client.

Although Ms Gracen, who was also a former Miss Arkansas, has denied any sexual relationship with the state's former Governor, sworn testimony by Judy Stokes, a close friend, has alleged that Mr Clinton forced himself on the model turned actress in the mid-1980s. Central to the allegation is whether Mr Clinton and his associates arranged jobs and other benefits to ensure her silence.

The White House continued yesterday to deny accusations from the Jones team that Mr Clinton had obstructed justice by withholding letters, notes and messages between the President and Kathleen Willey, the Democratic loyalist who went on national television to accuse him of an unwanted sexual advance.

Mrs Willey's claims had been undermined by the swift release of other friendly letters showing how she had maintained contact with the President after the alleged incident at the Oval Office doorway.

It emerged yesterday, however, that the White House was maintaining an "opposition research team" to assemble and distribute files with negative information about political opponents to friendly reporters.

Clinton aides have given a detailed description of the broad effort to Judicial Watch, a legal watchdog that has sued the Government to determine whether the White House used secret FBI background files to discredit its opponents.

Interviews with Paul Begala, a former campaign aide and top spin-doctor, and Eleanor Park, his assistant, as well as James Carville, the Administration's famous attack dog, portray a White House deeply concerned about conservative critics and diligent in discovering negative information about its enemies.

According to the organisation, friendly reporters said to have been fed information by Clinton aides include Wolf Blitzer and Jonathan King, both CNN broadcasters, Mark Halperin, an ABC producer, and reporters from *Time* magazine and *The Washington Post*.

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE



President Clinton recast by Kal of the *Baltimore Sun* as a star turn at the Oscar award ceremony

GREG GIBSON / AP



An elephant crosses the path of President Clinton's vehicle during a drive in Chobe National Park with wife Hillary, below right

Clinton praises Botswana 'miracle'

BY SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

CONTINUING his mission to paint a positive image of Africa, and encourage its leaders along a path to "good governance", President Clinton poured praise on Botswana's outgoing head of state, who retired at midnight.

Hours before Mr Clinton, his wife Hillary and his entourage took a day off from the rigours of African politics to go on safari in Chobe National Park, he told President Masire, 73: "We have seen the promise of a new Africa whose roots are deep here in your soil."

President Clinton added that the Botswanan leader had "sparked the engine of an economic miracle".

"You have been an inspiration to all those who cherish freedom," Mr Clinton told Mr Masire, who has been in power for 18 years and whose retirement from office is a rarity among African leaders.

Mr Masire has always claimed to be an "amateur politician". But his stewardship of Botswana, which has brought prosperity to its four million people dependent on exports of beef and diamonds, meant he was singled out for praise during Mr Clinton's African tour.

However, the plaudits of the American President were also effectively a rebuke for African leaders of Mr Masire's vintage who are considered by Washington to be anti-democratic leaders holding back the much-touted "African Renaissance".

Leaders of two of the most important countries, General Sani Abacha of Nigeria and President Moi of Kenya, were singled out for open criticism by President Clinton during his 11-day tour which ends tomorrow in Senegal.

Mr Clinton's praise for Mr Masire was in part a quid pro quo for his backing of the US-Africa Growth and Opportunity Bill, which offers tariff advantages to African producers and further benefits to those governments making the transition to democracy.

President Mandela and other senior African leaders have attacked the legislation, currently before Congress, because it attaches "too many" conditions to the trade benefits. Others fear that it could be used as a US stalking-horse to gain influence on a continent until now dominated by European powers.

Mr Masire said the Bill would "facilitate the industrialisation of our economies". He said: "We are hopeful that the US Senate will need no persuading to approve what many of us have come to regard as America's solemn bond to Africa."

Leading article, page 19



Pentagon says Cuban army is no longer a threat

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

A CLASSIFIED Pentagon report to be submitted to the US Congress tommorow claims that Cuba's armed forces no longer represent a serious military threat. The report is further evidence that United States policy towards Cuba is outdated and unrealistic.

The report, which has already aroused criticism from some hardline Cuban exiles, also adds ammunition to the arguments of senior American defence officials who strongly favour a policy of engaging their Cuban military counterparts to defuse tensions between the two countries.

According to the report, Cuba does not possess any chemical or biological weapons, and its military strength has been cut in half from its peak of 130,000 personnel at the end of the Cold War. Due to economic cutbacks and a shortage of spare parts, much of Cuba's military hardware is antiquated and inoperable, including some of its Soviet-made MiG fighter jets.

Despite the claims of Cuban exiles to the contrary, the Pentagon report also says that there is no evidence that Cuba is involved in drug trafficking.

Influential Cuban exiles in Congress have protested against the Pentagon's findings in a letter to Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State. "We are appalled by current attempts to downplay the Castro threat," they wrote earlier this month. "There is a pathologically unstable tyrant in the final years of his dictatorship just 90 miles from our shores.

"His four-decade record of brutality, rabid hostility towards the Cuban exile community, anti-Americanism, support for international terrorism, and proximity to the United States is an ominous combination," their letter said.

☐ **Toronto:** Canada has rejected several of the 19 Cubans proposed for exile in Canada after Havana released 300 political prisoners in response to an appeal by the Pope during his January visit to Cuba, the *Globe and Mail* newspaper reported yesterday. Canada had offered to take all 19, described by Prime Minister Jean Chretien as "prisoners of conscience". Now, however, four or five of the 19 prisoners due to be sent to Canada have been rejected, relatives said. *(Reuters)*

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DENZIL McNEELANCE



Power and poise: Shi Li Shengli demonstrates a posture in Shaolin kung fu, whose practitioners develop intense concentration from spiritual as well as physical exercises

Monks with a lethal habit

They balance like acrobats, strike like panthers and refuse to feel pain. **Grace Bradberry** meets the Zen kung fu monks

In a darkened rehearsal studio near Euston, a small monk, shaven-headed, robed in saffron, moves into a patch of light. He adopts a series of positions: first, legs apart and bent, palms outwards; next, the whole body tilted to one side, one leg bent upwards, an arm mirroring it on the other side. The balance, the precision, the calm, are all extraordinary.

What follows is, to Western eyes, still more so. The monk bursts into action, thrusting his hands up, down and sideways. He steps forward then flips back, landing prone before curving back upwards. The sequence is fast, ferocious, athletic, accompanied by grunts and performed with an expression of intense concentration. Afterwards I learn that it is called The Tiger.

Shi Guan Kui, 18, is the youngest of three Shaolin kung fu monks performing in London as part of a festival entitled *The Way of the Warrior*, which explores the links between the martial arts of India and China and their connections to Zen Buddhism. Shaolin kung fu, which originated at the Shaolin temple at Songshan in the 6th century, is widely held to be the source of all Asian martial arts.

Legend has it that 1,500 years ago, Bodhidharma (called Ta-Mo in China) left his home of Kanchipuram near Madras and journeyed to Canton, where he had an audience with the Emperor of the Lian Dynasty Wu Ti. He also visited the Songshan Shaolin monastery, where he introduced the concept of Wu-te — the notion that the martial arts are intended to promote spiritual development. Bodhidharma taught a new form of Buddhism, Ch'an or Zen, which encouraged followers to seek inner enlightenment.

The immense physical skill of the Shaolin monks is rooted in their command of chi, the total concentration on one part of the body. This focus not only enables them to perform precise, athletic movements with fantastic speed, but makes them impervious to pain. During performances, members of the audience will be invited to hit them with poles.

Although it will not be in the show, the monks also practise something called "iron-crotch kung fu" which involves lashing a boulder around the scrotum and pulling it off a wall. This feat earned them the number one spot in *Esquire* magazine's chart of "The 50 Hardest Things In The World". The magazine also noted that the monks could crack bricks with their heads, lick burning shovels and fight against spears with their bare hands.

Not only are the monks hard, however, they are also cool, which explains why *The Face* has devoted a page to them.

Shi Guan Kui's colleague, Shi Li Shengli, 24, demonstrates the "Drunken" form, a combination of full back-flip and staggering movements which display astonishing balance. Afterwards, he describes how his parents sent him to the monastery at the age of eight. Although they lived in the same province, Henan, he saw them only once a year.

Through an interpreter, he explains: "My father and mother were Buddhists and had a relationship with the temple, so the monastery accepted me through my parents' recommendation.

> 'They can lick hot shovels and fight spears with bare hands'

"My day was similar to that of older novices — cleaning, studying, training in martial arts. There was no favouritism because I was so young. It was very difficult."

Was he not frightened to leave home so young?

His answer is oblique. "The decision to come was largely influenced by my parents, but finally it was my own choice to become a monk."

Shi Guan Kui is more passionate in his answer. He grew up in the province of Anhui, where the family worshipped at a Shaolin temple, and entered the monastery at 12, some six years ago. "I was mentally deprived because I was away from my family, but also because in the monastery you don't *have* anything or *own* anything," he says. "Everything is emptiness, that's part of the religion."

The third monk, Shi Yanzi, explains further. He is 31 and has attained the rank of senior martial monk. Every boy who enters knows, he says, that hardship is the Shaolin way.

"Followers who cannot cope with hardship, or are frightened by the idea of the training, won't come to the monastery because they know that the spirit of Shaolin study *is* hardship."

Shi Yanzi did not enter the monastery until he was 15, training with his father instead, close to the Mongolian border. Lacking any connection to the temple, he was initially refused entry and went to an academy in another province. There he won a national championship and, after just three months, was accepted into the monastery.

Now a favourite of the abbot, Shi Yong Xin, he has been sent to London to establish a Shaolin temple in this country (there is already one in New York). He was not always an obvious candidate for such a task: "At 15, I wasn't even religious. I was only attracted by the martial arts. Only gradually did I realise that the body needs more than physical exercise."

In a typical day, he spends two hours meditating and three hours studying the Buddhist scripture, as well as devoting six hours to kung fu training.

"The difference between this type of martial art and other styles is that it starts with the study of Zen. The martial art is just a way of experiencing the physical feeling that leads us to the study of Zen philosophy. If a person's body is fit, then the mind becomes fit too. Other martial arts don't have that objective."

The aura of spiritual calm is what makes the performance so remarkable. Henry Smith, the co-artistic director of the International Festival Workshop and the man who invited the Shaolin to London, visited the monastery in search of monks, rather than mere technical practitioners of kung fu.

A New Yorker, Smith is a fifth dan black belt in aikido and was accustomed to martial arts displays of a high standard, but he was astounded by what he saw at the Shaolin monastery. Having made the 21-hour journey from Beijing, he initially found the monks inaccessible. Seven and eight-year-old novices could be seen running up and down mountains at 6am but the monks were hard to find. "They were either chanting or teaching classes," says Smith. "Finally we did manage to meet the abbot and he was very forthcoming. He said 'Come back tomorrow at 6am and I'll bring two of my students'."

The students were Shi Li Shengli and Shi Guan Kui. "It was an epiphanic journey," says Smith. "We were in search of the spirit of martial arts, and we found it there."

● *The Shaolin monks are at the Workshop Festival, Peacock Theatre, London WC2, until April 5. The events are presented by Asia House and produced by the International Workshop Festival. Information: 0171-314 8800.*

Anaemia and the right diet

Pallor is not the same as anaemia. City workers who deny themselves daylight – by long-distance commuting may, like prisoners or the housebound, display prison pallor. Despite their complexion they may, however, have a normal blood count.

Doctors are always on the lookout for anaemia and will check the colour on the inside of pale patients' eyelids, or may look at their fingernails to assess their colour and shape. In extreme cases of anaemia the patient's nails are not only very pale but so flattened, even depressed, as to be spoon-shaped, a condition known as koilonychia. Likewise the creases on the palm show white rather than red, and the tongue may be pale with the corners of the mouth cracked and sore.

Anaemia is a condition in which the haemoglobin, the oxygen-carrying pigment in the blood cells, is in short supply. Usually in anaemia the blood cells are small and pale, a microcytic anaemia, but sometimes they are large but few in number, a macrocytic anaemia. Macrocytic anaemia can stem, for instance, from vitamin B12 or folic acid deficiency, or liver, pituitary or thyroid failure — even too much alcohol.

When essential organs are deprived of oxygen by anaemia, the patient feels tired and listless all the time. In severe cases of anaemia the patient not only looks pale but may be breathless as the lungs struggle to keep the haemoglobin-starved blood cells oxygenated. Anaemia when gross may so deprive the heart muscle of oxygen that patients develop the typical chest pain of angina, and similarly the paucity of oxygen in the blood can cause headaches.

Anaemia is a symptom, not a disease. The most common cause of anaemia is a deficiency of iron in the diet; iron is the essential component of haemoglobin. Iron deficiency is often associated with a generally poor diet that is lacking in vitamins. Anaemia frequently complicates a meat-deficient diet as iron is more easily absorbed from a steak than from spinach or even nettles or parsley, both of which are richer in iron than spinach. Additional sources of iron include eggs, cereals, fish and dark green vegetables. Fresh fruit and vegetables also provide the vitamin C essential for the absorption of iron.

The diet of some anaemic patients may contain enough iron but it may be poorly absorbed, possibly as a result of the surgical removal of part of the gastro-intestinal system, sometimes because of disease, such as renal disease, coeliac disease, or the inflammatory bowel diseases.

Anaemia may also stem from the loss of iron through bleeding. It is a mistake to think that the bleeding has to be a deluge; the slow insidious blood loss caused by an oozing gastric or duodenal ulcer, piles or tumour may also easily induce anaemia. In unexplained anaemia, a hidden cancer must always be excluded.

A comparatively common cause of anaemia is that brought about by taking aspirin or other anti-inflammatory medications which may induce small erosions in the mucosal lining of the stomach and intestine. The most common cause of regular blood loss is that experienced by women each month; when this is unusually heavy, anaemia results.

The blood cells once created may be destroyed abnormally early. Although the marrow then responds by becoming more efficient, there is a limit to this and, once exceeded, the result is haemolytic anaemia. When anaemia is a consequence of rapid blood destruction, the patient not only has all the other symptoms of anaemia, but the excessive breakdown of the blood cells releases bowel pigments which gives the patients a lemon yellow tinge.

MEDICINE CHEST
DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

In iron deficiency anaemia patients need additional iron. Their medicine chest should contain ferrous salts, such as ferrous sulphate, fumerate or gluconate tablets, which are more useful than ferric compounds.

Iron medicines should not be taken with tetracyclines and some antacids. And they may upset the digestion. They could be dangerous if there is any question of gastro-intestinal obstruction or ulceration. If the iron preparation causes abdominal pain, nausea, constipation or diarrhoea, this may be eased if it is taken after meals and if a small dose is used initially. The patient with anaemia needs not only a medicine chest, but also a well-stocked larder.

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'Babies, love affairs and work matter more than fashion'

Inès de la Fressange's down-to-earth stance on design could propel her into the marketing stratosphere. Interview by **Noreen Taylor**



BENINOUS-SCORCELETTI

Inès de la Fressange: "I looked at what was going on around me, I absorbed — not difficult if your days are spent with Saint Laurent and Lagerfeld"

She is 40 now, but the sculpted cheekbones still conjure up images of Coco. Her body is hipless, breastless, almost boyish. Inès de la Fressange, the first girl to wear Levi 501s with a Chanel jacket, remains the essence of French chic.

Now she is just a step or two away from transforming that living embodiment of beauty and style — not to mention that mellifluous name — into a global logo to rival those of Ralph Lauren, Donna Karan and Calvin Klein.

If the deal comes off it will occur, as with every turn in her extraordinary life, without any special effort by Inès. Epitomising the world of bohemian cool, she never gives an impression of being driven or being hungry for acclaim. Ambition? So bourgeois, darling. What happens, happens. That's how it is, and that's how it has always been for this aristocratic icon.

Having spent the Eighties as the face of Coco perfume, helping to revive the tired Chanel label with the dashing irreverent style she employed as muse to Karl Lagerfeld, she emerged in the Nineties as a designer in her own right. Nothing big, mind you, just a charming boutique filled with the kind of clothes Inès likes to wear, decorated with lamps and rugs, redolent of her houses in Brittany and Provence.

When customers clamoured to buy the shop fittings, too, Inès created a line of household accessories. "A clothes shop should be like a joke shop," she would say in her inimitable French accent. "Fashion is not a priority in a woman's life. Babies, love affairs, work — all these are more important."

Magazine spreads, with Inès posing in her own exquisitely put-together rooms, added to her celebrity as a lifestyle guru. More shops followed: two in France, 11 in Japan, a trade showroom in New York, with others planned for London and Milan.

The anticipated designer franchise could propel her into the billion-dollar stratosphere inhabited only by the merchandising titans. Then Inès will have her watches, sunglasses, sweatshirts and perfume in high streets stretching from Rio to Sydney.

It is a truly ironic scenario, given her approach to the business. She has always cast a humorous eye over the fashion carnival, declaring herself uninterested in trends or competition. The daughter of the Marquis de la Fressange, brought up in great houses and dressed in her grandmother's Balmain castoffs, she appeared above the common run, reinforcing the image by letting it be known that her night-time reading included Kierkegaard.

Her new change of fortune stemmed from a desire for nostalgia and simplicity, for the sort of clothes she could never find in shops: the perfect blazer, the white poplin shirt cut like a man's, a cashmere sweater the colour of the sea, the type of navy coat she wore as a schoolgirl. Resourceful type that she is, she went out and designed them.

We met the day after her launch show last week, which attracted 1,500 of the fashion cognoscenti. In the office above her shop on Avenue Montaigne, she was wearing her current uniform, a dark fitted jacket, matching bell-bottoms, a brown V-neck sweater and brown sneakers. As she lit a cigarette and sipped strong black coffee, it looked as though she wasn't wearing any make-up. "No, no," she exclaimed. "I'm wearing foundation. At my age I can't go out without it, no matter how exhausted I am."

Her legs, I tell her, remind me of those skinny stilts that supported Seventies rock stars. "Hah! You should have seen me before I went to the doctor." The doctor? "Yes, to put on weight. Two holes for cheeks, no tits, 'orrible. So the doctor put me on a diet — I had to eat eggs at breakfast, lots of protein, starch, and now I've gained 8kg. I used to eat chocolate, tons of it, but it didn't make any difference. I come from a thin family. People can be just as cruel when you're too thin instead of too fat."

MARTIN BEDDALL



From Coco and catwalks to coffee cups and dog leads

Her show comprised a procession of covetable classics: big white shirts with trailing cuffs; velvet trouser suits reminiscent of Bianca Jagger's wedding outfit, worn with stiletto heels; pink duffel coats shrugged over silvery evening dresses; beige chamois skirts worn with loafers. Nothing ground-breaking there. No eccentric feathers or fairground laughs. Merely clothes often dreamt of, but rarely seen.

Yet this designer has had no formal training, only years spent in front of the camera, and on catwalks wearing other people's clothes. "Modelling suited me," she says. "I felt loved, wanted, a little bit of a spoilt child. It helped to overcome the shyness that made my adolescence such a misery.

"I looked at what was going on around me, I absorbed — not difficult if your days are spent with masters such as Saint Laurent and Lagerfeld."

Then she fell out with Lagerfeld when the mayors of France chose her as the model for the statue of Marianne, the French Britannia. Inès felt honoured to have been asked. Lagerfeld disagreed, believing his creation was not a monument for provincial squares. End of a friendship and the beginning of Inès's next role.

"People used to ask me where I bought things," she explains while slumped across a sofa. "I used to hear women talk about having nothing to wear even though they had wardrobes of clothes. What they meant was that they had nothing that made them feel good. I used to say 'Forget the logo, don't be a fashion victim, wear what makes you feel comfortable'.

"All around were these images of what women must aspire to, someone with the spiritual knowledge of the Dalai Lama, who has the body of an athlete. The businesswoman who is never tired. The mother who never complains. I wanted to say 'It's not a question of life and death, it's only fashion'.

"I wanted to have a shop where you could buy a dress, coffee cups and a dog lead. Then my generous business partner, Henri Recamier, installed me in this stateliest of addresses. Between neighbours such as Hermès and Dior there's me and my T-shirts and my lovely salesgirls, who look happy."

Not difficult, since Inès seems such a happy, unaffected, easygoing sort of person. She is married to Luigi d'Urso, an historian, and they have a four-year-old daughter, Nine [pronounced Neen], whose godmother is one of Inès's close friends, Princess Caroline of Monaco. She admits to suffering from the guilt of every modern working mother.

"You are always pulled in separate directions. I dreamt of taking a year off after I had Nine. I planned a normal life, pushing the pram through the park, shopping, spending days being a mother. For a time I enjoyed myself and then guilt set in, and I became anxious worrying about the people back in the shop waiting for me. There is no answer."

The shop filled with television teams anxious for interviews. Hair and make-up artists were impatient to descend, yet Inès chatted as though she had all the time in the world. One of her great loves is traditional British clothes and food.

"I went to school for a time in Folkestone, so I have these memories of cosy rooms, chintzy chairs and shepherd's pie. But I can't find that place any more. Your restaurants are filled with food from every country except your own. The same with clothes. Where are the cardigans, the trousers, the coats Coco Chanel stole and claimed as her own? I never see them, only people wearing jogging clothes, as though every day is a weekend.

"Last year I looked for a Shetland sweater with a Fair Isle border for my daughter. Eventually, after I gave up, Luigi rang to say he'd found one in Dieppe. When I searched for a fitted jacket, the kind worn with a kilt, I found it didn't exist any more."

As for style in British high streets, she initially demurred until I pressed. "Let me sum it up with a memory. One very hot summer's day I went to a grand wedding in the English countryside. I saw all the men in their morning suits and I thought 'How terrific, how elegant. Very simple. Just grey, black and white'.

"Then I looked at the women, at all the frills, the pinks, the fuss, the flowers dangling from hats. They looked so hot, so uncomfortable, like big floppy bunnies. British women can't resist adding — earrings here, a scarf there, another colour to brighten things up. It's as though they're afraid of minimalism, when it's often the most flattering and most comfortable.

"Maybe British husbands don't take an interest. Maybe they don't compliment their women. Sometimes I think they want to hide themselves. How else can you explain those baggy tops and leggings?

"But everyone is capable of change. Look at how Princess Diana learnt. Contrast the engagement pictures of her in that awful blue suit with the photograph on the cover of the Morton book. Black polo neck and black, slim-fitting trousers, little flat pumps and natural-looking hair. Perfect! It's what you learn to leave off that counts."

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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES HONDA PRIZE DRAW TOKEN 2

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Sick Kiev must take its medicine

Anna Reid says we would all gain if Ukraine chose economic reform

The sixth largest country in Europe has just elected a new parliament. According to preliminary results, released yesterday, about one in three seats went to the Communist Party and its allies, scotching hopes of economic reform. The leading candidates for the President, who will be elected next year, are a man who thinks "the means of production" should stay in state hands, and the former head of the secret police.

Which is this country? It is Ukraine. A nation quietly sliding into the role of beetroot-republic, its economy in ruins, its media cowed, its politicians as hated as they are corrupt.

Ukraine is the quintessential faraway land about which we know nothing. That is hardly surprising, since until 1991, barring a few bloody months after the Russian Revolution, it had never been an independent state. Save for its underexploited farmland, it has no important natural resources, and does most of its foreign trade over its eastern border with Russia. Worse, Ukrainians seem determined to shoot themselves in the foot: though their living standards are those of a tinpot Third World dictatorship, they elected their dreadful politicians, and show no desire for the glittering prizes — European Union and Nato membership — that fire Balts, Poles, Czechs and Hungarians. According to an exit poll 26 per cent of them — not enough to change the constitution, but proof of deep popular disillusion — have just voted for a party that wants "brotherly reunion" with Russia. For Western governments keen to give aid and training, and Western businessmen keen to invest, it is very frustrating. A North American diplomat tells of a recent visit by officials from his foreign ministry: "We gave them the *spiel* on Ukraine's 70 years of Communist oppression, on how hard it is for people to adapt. And their reaction was — well, if this generation is a lost cause, let's come back in 20 years."

We are wrong to throw up our hands, for two reasons. First, fifty million people are living unnecessarily miserable lives. Though the foreign pages focus on the mafia princesses lounging behind the smoked glass of their boyfriends' BMWs, the typical Ukrainian is the old woman eking out her £15 monthly pension by selling eggs from a square of newspaper laid on the pavement, the engineer whose factory closed down years ago and doesn't understand a profit-and-loss account, or the teacher whose students no longer turn up for lessons and who hasn't been paid for months. Drive half an hour from Kiev, and you find dirt-track villages where people drag their water home to two-room cottages on home-made sledges, seldom handle paper money, and hardly know how to use a telephone. In the coalmines of the Donbass, more than 300 men die each year in the kind of accidents consigned to folklore in Wales. All this would be changing were Ukraine implementing the kinds of reforms that have transformed the rest of the old Soviet bloc.

Second, Ukraine has a uniquely nervy relationship with the world's most unpredictable nuclear power — Russia. Even for liberal Russians, accepting Ukrainian independence is hard. Politicians tap this streak to their advantage: Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow and a possible successor to President Yeltsin, has declared the Crimean port of Sevastopol his city's "eleventh district", and the Russian Duma recently threw out a treaty ceding sovereignty over the naval base to Ukraine in exchange for a 20-year lease. Should an aggressive nationalist come to power, he could destabilise Ukraine by fanning secessionism among its large ethnic-Russian minority — a technique used in Georgia and Tajikistan.

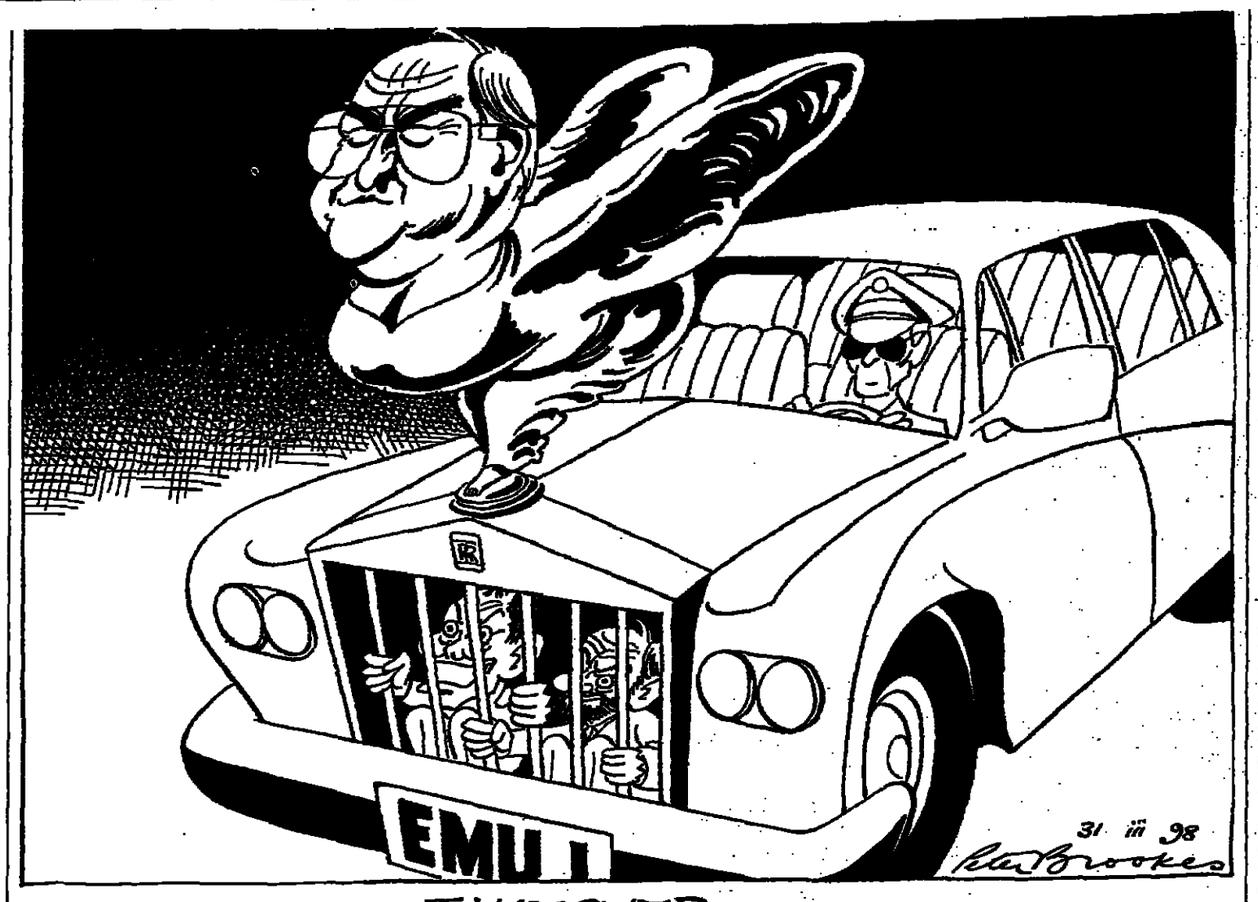
For the time being, of course, the men on the Kremlin merry-go-round have more urgent things to worry about than rebuilding their old empire. But behind the cordial verbiage of East-West summitry, Ukraine remains disputed territory, a buffer zone between a wounded Russia and an expanding West. Keeping it independent, paranoid as it sounds, means keeping Central Europe free — and, paradoxically, Russia too. As the veteran American cold-warrior, Zbigniew Brzezinski, puts it: "Russia can either be an empire or a democracy, but it cannot be both." Reabsorbing Ukraine, in other words, could be done only by force, wrecking Russia's fledgeling democracy as well as Ukraine's.

Ukraine is expert at playing off the US and Russia

Though such doomsday hypotheses will, thankfully, probably never be tested, the West cannot afford to abandon Ukraine. Current foreign policy is that of the weary parent, veering between indulgence (£714 million for new power stations in exchange for a promise not to sell nuclear technology to Iran), and exasperation (threats to cut bilateral aid if investment conditions do not improve). Clear exegesis of the strings attached to loans and aid, promptly and consistently applied, is vital.

We must also convince Russia of its own interest in having a prosperous and stable neighbour on its western border. Like the spoilt child of divorcees, Ukraine has become expert at playing off the White House against the Kremlin, demanding expensive toys, such as International Monetary Fund loans from the West, cheap oil and gas from Russia, in exchange for empty promises of political loyalty and economic reforms. The sooner mum and dad tell Ukraine that it is time to take its medicine, the better for us, for Russia, and for the pathetic pensioners standing patiently in the Kiev snow.

Anna Reid is the author of Borderland, *by Weidenfeld.*



TAKEOVER...

Silence of the Babes

Labour MPs should not let themselves be muzzled. It's time they caused trouble

Libby Purves

Remember May 2, 1997? Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive. You did not have to be a fervent Labour supporter: the most surprising people went around with big daft smiles, because a weary, stained old Government had been swept away.

Democracy, for once, felt as cathartic as revolution. Even people who had been too surly and defeatist to vote started saying wistfully that they wished they had been part of it. Yawning strangers on railway stations exchanged wondering memories: the Portillo moment, the Ben Bradshaw moment. News bulletins endlessly and without cynicism reran the video of the Blair children stepping into No 10 like living pledges of humane values. In my neighbourhood, once a Tory heartland, a foal was born that night and joyfully christened "Landslide".

The foal is doing splendidly. The Government, on the other hand, is rapidly turning into an old nag. Not only because it nags us — all governments do, we are used to it — but because from being a fresh, good-hearted colt it is showing all the signs of irritating senility: stubbornness, slyness, a willingness to use its weight to get its way. Perhaps we fed it too many oats on that giddy May day. Perhaps we spoilt it.

The worst symptom, which aggravates all the others, is the leadership's over-tight hold on its MPs and ministers. It may have begun with a perfectly reasonable desire to speak with one voice and prevent the far Left from recruiting among its unexpected rabble of backbenchers. But the degree of new Labour thought-control is now becoming genuinely worrying, even to those who broadly support new Labour thoughts.

At the weekend *The Sunday Times* enterprisingly rounded up some specimen Budget reactions from a selection of Labour MPs. Falmouth, Wirral South, and Monmouth all heard statements from their Members which were identical, word for word "... a Budget to make work pay, encourage enterprise, give families the support they need". Another sentence, on the welfare Green Paper, cropped up verbatim from Sherwood, Derby North, the Wrekin and Monmouth again. From Cornwall to Cheshire, on big issues and small, the cloned statements keep coming: even on firework safety the newspaper unearthed two identical sentences from MPs a hundred miles apart.

We know that specimen press releases, speeches, and photo-opportunity ideas constantly emanate from Millbank Tower: the problem is that they get used. A spokesman said that MPs are independent agents but "welcome the opportunity of having standard responses to use if they want to". Chillingly, though, he went on: "From the point of view of government, it is true that it is preferable if they do use them." And from the point of view of a starstruck new MP who never really expected the job, it is no doubt preferable to stay on the right side of an ever smoother, ever more frightening machine.

It even frightens ministers, seasoned war-horses of long opposition who might expect trust, and collegiate status, and a chance to put their own ingredients into the policy pot. A pair of truly awful faxes from the Prime Minister's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, became public at the weekend: they were addressed to Harriet Harman and her deputy, Frank Field, concerning not only supposed covert Budget "leaks" — always irritating to a government machine — but also open appearances on the radio.

Those faxes are the last straw. I hate writing this, and never wanted to join the game which right-wing commentators have been gleefully playing for months, talking of robots and apparatchiks and pager-slaves. I tried for months to defend, in my own mind, new Labour's passion for total public unity. But I throw my hands up and give in: the critics are right, and there is something genuinely shocking in an atmosphere which allows an unelected hireling, a mere press officer, to write to a Cabinet minister with such peremptoriness. Mr Campbell says: "I should be grateful for an explanation on why the interviews with *The Guardian*, *Woman's Hour* and *World at One* were not cleared through this office." Not "Tony Blair would be grateful", note — just an "I" of unquestioned authority. This, like the clone press releases, gives us all too clear a picture of a Government being run like the worst sort of corporation. So does the unprovable, but undoubted, fact that rebellious ministers are disciplined by being subtly undermined by lobby briefings. An insider suggests to a favoured, helpful journalist that the said minister is out of the loop and on the skids. The minister smarts, and toes the line.

Some of us still want to think of Mr Blair as a good and fair man, open to arguments. We do not like the way evidence to the contrary is inexorably accumulating. Even if you squeamishly discard three quarters of the anecdotes, as I do, the tall keeps mounting.

Excessive party discipline, combined with a big majority, has real dangers. It means, in effect, that government listens only to the views of a narrow band of insiders, narrowly interpreting its research. Yet now, more than at any time since the early 1980s, the leadership needs to listen to a wide variety of people: to intelligent ordinary people, family people, people with social ideals and a desire to make life better for their fellows. Precisely the kind of people who struggled for Labour in opposition, and who are now the MPs it holds in such contempt.

Their voices are vital because enormous changes are being made in areas which intimately affect the lives of the most vulnerable: welfare, early education, family law. These things badly need a commonsense and commonplace eye on them, because they cannot safely be left to a few high-flying policy wonks. Nor to ministers who — like Harriet Harman — have been undermined, bullied and publicly snubbed until their original vision is clouded by fear and (I suspect) depression.

Backbenchers may be unruly and awkward, but they are real and elected. They fought, usually against richer, more experienced Tory opponents — by doorstepping and struggling in local government and gradually winning trust in their own patch of land. They should not be reduced to asking sycophantic questions in the House and regurgitating press releases. They should be thinking aloud, worrying, consulting, forcing proper debate.

The strangely silent majority of Blair Babes should remember they are women, and start questioning all sorts of things. They could query the wisdom of putting economic pressure on mothers of pre-school children to go out to work; or the whole idea that paid work is the only benchmark of useful citizenship, better than caring for babies and old people and invalids and the local WRVS meals-on-wheels service. I want to hear backbenchers pointing out that the glib guarantee of "nursery places for all four-year-olds" is not worth having unless standards are changed, because the majority of these new places are going to be in primary schools, which are free from proper nursery restrictions on staff ratios. No four-year-old benefits in the slightest from being slung into a mob of 30 others, just as no baby gets a good start by being put into cheap, grotty childcare so that its mother can work in a burger bar.

Labour backbenchers should be vocal and questioning on these bread-and-butter issues, because only they can prevent policy — beautiful, bloodless, symmetrical, stainless-steel Millbank policy — from veering too far from the messy realities. They have to speak out because Tory MPs can't: not yet, not while they are still gagged by shame and recent history. A Tory who tries to oppose from the humane, family point of view just looks opportunistic or hypocritical, because the Tories stacked up a lousy record on these things. For the moment, it is government backbenchers who must start public debates and, if necessary, rebel in the lobbies. There have been some heroes of principle: Alice Mahon, Gordon Prentice, Malcolm Chisholm, Kate Hoey. But not enough.

I do not think the Government will pay the slightest attention to this: the best I can hope for is one of Mr Campbell's famous bullying phone-calls saying why everything he does is right for Britain. So this is for the backbenchers, and one or two ministers who perhaps should walk out and join them. Make trouble. It is your duty.

Footloose with the facts

Hooliganism is not coming home, hopes **Keith Blackmore**

Hillsborough was a bad day for football. Heysel was a bad day for football. But Saturday was not. Saturday was a bad day for news and a good day for politicians.

The first indication of the turn things were to take came from the BBC. It led its television news on a slow Saturday night with the dramatic announcement: "It's been a bad day for football." And this because a Fulham fan had been killed at Gillingham in a fight and a referee had nearly been attacked on the pitch where Barnsley were playing Liverpool. But the conflation of these two nasty, regrettable, yet completely unrelated stories was irresponsible.

Never mind that the fan was killed outside the Gillingham ground and that the fight was, therefore, beyond the direct control of the club's officials. Never mind that he was not stabbed, as was at first hysterically reported, but appears to have died as the result of a punch and hitting his head against a kerb. Never mind, either, that a referee at a professional rugby league match was also assaulted on the pitch by a fan that same afternoon.

Long before the newscaster had actually uttered them, listeners could sense the coming of those dread words: "hooliganism", "Hillsborough" and, above all the so-called "threat to England's World Cup bid for 2006".

This sort of nonsense has been encouraged by the appointment of David Mellor to lead the Government's independent Football Task Force. No one could argue that Mr Mellor's first mission as head of this task force — the elimination of racism from the game — was anything but commendable. Yet his announcement of this project attracted almost unprecedented attention from the press. Why? The answer is simple. It is because football has become a magic word. Football is popular. Football is cool. No wonder politicians love it.

In cases such as the project to counteract racism, this does no harm. The real problem arises when this popularity — on which Mr Mellor has proved only too keen to capitalise — is taken advantage of at the expense of reason and truth. Football is interesting, seems to be the reasoning, therefore anything to do with football other than the actual kicking of the ball must also be news.

The appointment of football spokesmen and task forces is all very well but if all this does is encourage a tendency to rush from one headline-grabbing judgment to the next, it does neither the game nor its many real supporters any good.

It is time, then, to kick this spirit of Mellorism out of football. For it was the sacrifice of informed opinion to sensationalism that led to the yoking of the fatality at Gillingham and the attack at Barnsley.

When Tony Blair appointed Tony Banks as Minister for Sport it seemed at worst a good joke. Mr Banks was, after all, a real football supporter. He turned down official engagements to go to the FA Cup Final. Surely he could do no harm? And anyway, he couldn't last.

But it is 11 months since his appointment. Mr Banks is still there. The game has, so to speak, become a political football, booted onto the pitch whenever things get a bit serious — or a bit dull. But despite his regular gaffes, Mr Banks's worst offence has been putting Mr Mellor in charge of the task force.

The appointment has encouraged the kind of reaction to events which we witnessed on Saturday, although Mr Mellor himself was not, in this case, culpable. Indeed, his comments on the fatality were restrained. But it is the spirit which his presence as an appointed expert has fostered which has encouraged others to dash to foolish conclusions.

The death of one fan, however regrettable in itself, does not signal that the bad old days of hooliganism are again upon us. We do not need to erect fences at our football grounds. We do not need identity cards. And the incidents have no serious bearing on our chances of getting the 2006 World Cup (as if that mattered).

Meanwhile the real story out there on the pitches has passed almost unnoticed. The attack on the referees at Barnsley and at the rugby league match at Headingley may signal a trend. Earlier this year, a linesman was attacked on the pitch at Portsmouth. For some reason, fans seem more inclined to attack referees than merely abuse them. This may be because clubs are not stewarding their crowds well enough or because the referees are being asked to make increasingly incomprehensible and therefore provocative decisions. Whatever the reason (and the subject deserves research), it has nothing to do with the death at Gillingham.

Task forces and scarf-wearing sports ministers may be well intentioned but if they encourage careless treatment of football's various ailments, they will only damage the game they were appointed to protect.

Anatole Kaletsky's column will appear tomorrow

Arabic service

SECRET negotiations are taking place between Tony Blair and Yassir Arafat over whether the Prime Minister should become the first "major Western statesman" to stay overnight in Gaza. So keen are the Palestinians for Blair to bring his toothbrush — and thus offend Israel even more than Robin Cook — that they are going to extraordinary lengths to woo him. A prized sheep is being fattened in preparation for a ritual slaughter in the traditional manner. The results will be presented to Blair at a lavish banquet, although he is not expected to take part in the preparation.

The mansion formerly belonging to the Egyptian governor in downtown Gaza is being subjected to frantic repairs — overseen by Arafat himself — in time for Blair's arrival next month, and it is likely to be renamed Blair House. But most attention is being paid to Yassir's pride and joy, the tennis court in the back garden. Blair's officials pointed out that the PM likes to work off a bit of frustration from endless talks with a competitive set or two. Arafat has agreed to place a member of his private office on standby, racquet in hand. I should warn the PM that Abu Tareq Sharafa, the gentleman on whom a nascent nation's hopes depend, is no slouch. "He is excellent," pants his trainer. "We thought Mr Blair would appreciate a good opponent." I fear he might meet enough of those in Israel.



● *IS DAME Edna Everidge poised for a makeover? Barry Humphries yesterday rang the magazine* Frank *in excitable mood, asking where he could buy trendy sandals featured in its pages. "I hope they are for your wife, darling," came the reply. "They wouldn't compliment your calves."*

Legal paid

THE pillow partner of Anthony Julius, a lawyer who acted for Diana, Princess of Wales, has been granted legal aid to divorce her husband. Dina Rabinovitch is married to Guido Rauch, a wealthy derivatives trader, but has been deemed poor enough to qualify for a Legal Aid Board handout. After the *decree nisi*, she intends marrying Julius, who has been earning an estimated £300,000 a year as the senior partner at Mishcon De Reya.

The two lovebirds met early last year: Rabinovitch is the daughter of one of the firm's clients. Julius, who masterminded Diana's divorce settlement, left his £500,000 house in Hampstead soon after the liaison took off. One person they could have turned to for help in filling in the legal aid forms is Julius's estranged wife. She is a senior aide to my old friend the Lord Chancellor, who has launched a crackdown on granting legal aid to the "apparently wealthy".

● *RORY BREMNER, comedic master of disguise, is to re-emerge in a serious incarnation. Bored with sending up soundbite MPs, he has turned his talents to opera. The satirist (pictured) is to fulfil his dream of translating* Der Silbersee, *Kurt Weill's bitter attack on 1930s Germany, into English. Bremner's German degree has come in handy finally although the inevitable Dr Jonathan Miller has advised. Topical references to Blair's Britain will be tossed in to up the rather minimal laugh quotient.*

Cape crusade

The delirious welcome afforded President Clinton in South Africa was lacking when the British minister Peter Kilfoyle made a rather more cut-price visit to Cape Town last week. The High Commissioner's party advanced to greet Kilfoyle as he emerged from the aircraft. The minister was left bemused as the party walked past and fawned over a smart tourist. "They had been told to look for a man with a moustache, but they got the wrong one," says Kilfoyle. Our man flirted with danger in the dark continent. "We were headed into bandit country and my bodyguards got scared." Despite his protests, the train turned back.



● *LABOUR'S fondness for keeping its people "on message" is becoming ever more inclusive. David Amess, the Tory MP for Southend West, was mistakenly invited to a briefing yesterday arranged by Paddy Tipping, Jack Straw's PPS. On offer were "supplementary questions", useful to Labour's more robotic backbenchers.*

Party pooped

CONGRATULATIONS to Lord Steel of Aikwood, 60 today. Paddy Ashdown has forgotten to send him a card and the Liberal Democrats are not organising a party. All David can look forward to is a drive north to his family in the Borders. Steel takes it in good heart: "My sixtieth has come rather suddenly and I am not making a great fuss about it."



● *HE MUST be feeling brave. O.J. Simpson has agreed to an interview request from Ruby Wax (pictured). The woman for whom volume control could have been invented has a peculiar talent for extracting embarrassing information from her televisual victims. Could she succeed where American justice failed?*

JASPER GERARD

HARD BARGAINING

Blair cannot appear to be bullied by the unions

Over the next few weeks, Tony Blair will have to make one of the hardest choices of his premiership so far. He had hoped not to have to make a choice at all: the opposing sides had been sent away to seek a compromise. But the gap between the CBI and TUC on union recognition has not been bridged. The Prime Minister will have to take a position and, in doing so, he will annoy one side or the other.

The critical decision rests on the interpretation of a sentence in Labour's manifesto: "Where a majority of the relevant workforce vote in a ballot for the un-ion to represent them, the union should be recognised." The CBI argues that this means a majority of the workforce must vote "yes"; the TUC wants merely a majority of those voting. The CBI's version is a closer fit with the admittedly (and intentionally) ambiguous words. The TUC argues, though, that in any other type of election, those who abstain are not automatically counted as voting "no".

Mr Blair has been put under immense pressure by the unions. There have been threats of withdrawal of financial support, suggestions that trade unionists should take to the streets, and a call for the TUC to convene an emergency congress, the first for 20 years. This intimidation may be counter-productive: if there is one thing the Prime Minister is rightly keen to avoid, it is the suggestion that his Government can be bullied by the trade unions.

On the other hand, he also needs to keep his ministers and party together. The issue of union recognition looks set to become as inflammatory as that of lone parent benefits, although it affects a different set of MPs. On lone parents, it was the new, Blairite members who felt most let down. With union recognition, the greatest trouble will come from traditionalist old Labour MPs.

They, however, understand the complexities of trade union ballots. They know that, both in their party and in unions themselves, big constitutional changes almost always require more than simple majority support in order to be passed. A move to union recognition in a workplace is a major step. It deserves the same sort of special treatment that is accorded to a change in an organisation's constitution.

So, while not backing the CBI wholesale, Mr Blair is justifiably demanding another safeguard: either a high minimum turnout, such as 75 to 80 per cent, or a repackaged version of the same thing — an insistence that, say, 40 per cent of those eligible to vote should back recognition. Without this protection, a small militant group could take advantage of a largely apathetic workforce and wreak havoc in a plant.

The Government should also pay attention to the small print of any deal. It is important, for instance, that small companies with fewer than, say, 30 employees should be exempt from the legislation. And it is also vital that individual employees should continue to be allowed to negotiate their own contracts with their employers even if their colleagues have chosen to be covered by a collective bargaining agreement. Otherwise, union recognition becomes uncomfortably close to the coercion of the closed shop.

The unions and their tame MPs may demand the earth from Mr Blair. But they should ask themselves why he is in a position to give them anything at all. Had he not persuaded business to trust him, had he not persuaded voters that Labour had escaped the grip of the union barons, he would not have won the election. And if there is any return to the bad old days of union power, he may not win the next one.

HOME ON THE HILL

Where, for Africa's sake, Clinton must focus on the IMF

Despite the passing embarrassment of sitting through a Soweto sermon on adultery, and the more serious irritation of being publicly lectured by President Mandela on the merits of bringing Libya and Iran in from the cold, Bill Clinton has reason to be pleased with his sweep through Africa's sunnier uplands. With the exception of South Africa's Government, which acted as though ungracious carping were the hallmark of national pride, his hosts have accepted his good intentions and kept to themselves whatever doubts they may have had about this American "rediscovery" of Africa.

Mr Clinton has repaid them by being a better listener than they might have hoped. He came to preach the virtues of trade, not aid; he goes home with a better understanding of how far even the best-run African countries mostly are from economic viability. This is partly because many had touched bottom by the time a new generation of no-nonsense leaders emerged. Even after a decade of growth averaging more than 6 per cent under President Museveni, average incomes in Uganda are only just beginning to get back to the level before Idi Amin's catastrophic dictatorship began in 1971 and two thirds of Ugandans survive on less than a dollar a day. Add environmental degradation, Aids, population pressures and the unrepayable foreign debts piled up by the continent's long line of kleptocrat rulers, and it is small wonder that after only a week of exposure to the grim realities confronting Africa's "success stories", let alone those which still resist reform, Mr Clinton was modifying his free-market message with a pledge to restore US aid to the levels obtaining before he took office.

Africans should not hold their breath. Mr Clinton's once remarkable ability to work his way with Congress is a thing of the past. The scandals circling the White House may not have dented his public popularity; but on the Hill, his credit has expired. His public conversion to the cause of more aid for Africa will meet a hostile reception there, where aid of any kind has always been a Cinderella. It is, moreover, politically ill-timed for another reason which matters greatly to the rest of the world as well as to Africa.

The Administration has been battling for months to extract Congress's assent to an $18 billion increase in US subscriptions to the International Monetary Fund, whose reserves have been drawn down by its massive rescue packages for Asia to levels that could inhibit it from performing its stabilising function in the world economy. This refinancing effort, to which other countries are prepared to contribute only if the US plays its part, is not only essential to the successful international containment of the aftershocks of Asia's financial crisis; it is a test of America's willingness to make good its claims to global leadership.

Both Republicans and Democrats, for different motives, have made the IMF a football for domestic political battles, festooning the legislation with unrelated amendments ranging from anti-abortion clauses to workers' rights. With the crucial vote only days away, the mere ghost of a suspicion that the President has become "soft" on aid could be fatally counter-productive. Mr Clinton has shown over the past week that he can still concentrate on the big picture. IMF financing may seem a dryly technical matter by comparison with Africa's human dramas, but robust international financial institutions are central to bolstering investor confidence in the African markets that Mr Clinton rightly seeks to champion. For Africa's sake, the Hill must somehow be won over before the Easter recess.

BETTER READ THAN DEAD?

Doctors should be athletes, not aesthetes

When Sir Lancelot Pratt was responsible for the training of young doctors, before St Swithin's was closed by Virginia Bottomley, little was required of the aspirant sawbones apart from core practical skills. Future neurosurgeons were usually chosen for their capacity to cope with Watney's Red Barrel and their skill in the scrum — and that was just the women. Now, however, more is to be demanded of our doctors. Following research from the Nuffield Trust, which suggests that studying the arts makes for more "rounded" individuals, future doctors are to be urged to devour the output of Byron and Shelley to round themselves out. Sir Lancelot may have rounded himself out quite adequately by devouring the output of Bordeaux and Champagne but future physicians must learn to appreciate cultures which have not developed in Petri dishes.

Given how much is already required of our doctors before they wield their first scalpel it may be asking too much to insist on another exam hurdle to be cleared in advance of eventual qualification. Indeed, the insistence on a working knowledge of metre and rhythm as a precondition of practising medicine may strike many potential patients as a skewed priority. How many, lying dazed and bleeding on the turf, would be reassured to hear the cry "let me through, I'm a poet"? Doctors should certainly not be critics manqué. Ask them if Keats is superior to Dylan and they'll only suggest you get a second opinion.

There is, of course, a proud tradition of writers who served their time at the dissecting table. Keats himself, Anton Chekhov and Arthur Conan Doyle all studied medicine, and proved great writers. But were they any good as doctors? It is a general rule that the more reliable the medical man the less intelligible his writing, so any facility with the pen must count against these physicians. More telling still, what records exist of grateful patients who owe their lives to the skill of these men?

As for their own health, Keats did not see out his twenties. Conan Doyle's creation, Holmes, is far from a healthy example to the reader. The famous detective was inclined to grade his cases as one, two or three pipe problems. His recourse to tobacco, or worse, when in need of mental stimulation betrays an, at best, imperfect knowledge of the respiratory system on the part of the author. In the case of these doctors of letters, artistic achievement was bought at the cost of bare professional competence.

To what then do we owe the decreases in infant mortality and increases in longevity which have marked the second half of the 20th century in Britain? Almost certainly to clinicians brought up on the rugby field and finished off on the golf course — men who think rhythm is a discredited method of birth control. Doctors should resist the adulteration of their profession and recognise that the best medicine is laughter in the face of such proposals.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Democracy and a mayor for London

From Mr Richard A. Edwards

Sir, In its Green Paper, *New Leadership for London*, the Government claimed that it is "vital that the best candidates for mayor . . . are encouraged to stand" (para 3.17). Yet the detailed proposals outlined in the White Paper (reports and leading article, *March 26*) will achieve the opposite.

In addition to seeking London-wide nominations, candidates will be required to "demonstrate the seriousness of their intent by paying a significant deposit" (Para 4.23). Any candidate who fails to secure 5 per cent of the vote would forfeit the deposit. Thus a candidate will need to poll approximately 250,000 votes to save his deposit. The White Paper justifies this provision as necessary to prevent an important election turning into a carnival for publicity-seekers and cranks.

The requirement of a significant deposit might keep out the cranks, but at the cost of limiting the choice of Londoners to party-vetted candidates. Under such arrangements it will be extremely difficult for an independent candidate or one supported by a new political party to contest the election.

This provision will undoubtedly deter anyone offering fresh ideas from standing as a candidate. For this reason it should be dropped.

Yours etc,
RICHARD A. EDWARDS,
60 Queen's Road,
Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 5HW.
March 26.

From Mr Illtyd Harrington

Sir, It is a sad but I suppose inevitable day when a mayor is the proposed answer to the decline of participatory democracy in London.

You are correct to draw attention to the poverty of choice which seems to be on offer (leading article, March 26) and it is a dangerous day when we have to go to the London School of Economics for our ideas on the restructuring of local government and to New York for role models.

Paradoxically, outside the shrinking group of political activists there exists in the voluntary sector a much improved, more intelligent number of specialised groups — such as parent associations and environmental groups — who could play a more significant role in influencing local affairs.

Yours faithfully,
ILLTYD HARRINGTON
(Deputy Leader, GLC, 1973-85),
The Savile Club,
69 Brook Street, W1.
March 26.

From Mr Michael Kent, QC

Sir, A mayor chosen by direct election is a constitutional innovation: no other executive office of any importance has ever been filled in that way in this country.

Only a tiny percentage of an electorate of five million can ever get to know personally the candidates. The rest will have to rely on their impressions, through the filter of media presentation, of the worth of individuals whose names appear on ballot papers.

The principle, which is now to be abandoned, has always been that those who aspire to public office are chosen by those (themselves elected directly) who are close enough to the candidates to be in a position to judge their suitability and, more importantly, to detect any character flaws which ought to disqualify them.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL KENT,
2 Crown Office Row,
Temple, EC4Y 7HJ.
March 26.

From Mr J. E. Gray

Sir, You report that voters are "to regain their voice" in London's affairs; but what percentage of those eligible should have to vote to make the election valid?

I suggest that if less than two thirds bother to vote, the whole expensive exercise should be called off as clearly unrepresentative.

Yours &c,
J. E. GRAY,
29 Gallagher Road,
Bedworth, Warwickshire CV12 8SB.
March 30.

At Russia's helm

From Mr Andrew M. Rosemarine

Sir, In his otherwise excellent article on the Russian President's sacking of his Government, John Lloyd writes (March 24): "it will weaken Russia and make it more dangerous".

Is this true? According to the article, armed insurrection already loomed ahead against that Government, and its outgoing Premier was facing charges of corruption. Is not Mr Yeltsin's action an intelligent political stroke to recapture the people's trust?

Russia now has at the helm of its Government a young, industrious and untainted reformer, with experience in its vital energy sector — Sergei Kiriyenko — and Mr Yeltsin is manoeuvring to get him the job on a secure basis. Surely that is likely to be an improvement for Russia.

Yours etc,
A. ROSEMARINE,
78 Cavendish Road,
Salford M7 4WA.
rosemarine@cheerful.com
March 29.

No room for 'Pansy' in today's RN?

From Captain Peter Elphick

Sir, It was with *Delight* (destroyer 1932) that I read your report on the appropriateness or otherwise of naval ships' names (March 28). There has always been a *Griper* (gunboat 1879) or two around to take exception to the naming of particular ships. On top of that we now live in an age where one must be very *Careful* (gunboat 1856) not to give offence.

Amongst "hard-as-nails" past names which would probably be considered politically incorrect these days are *Ravager* (escort carrier 1942), *Bouncer* (gunboat 1881) and *Bruiser* (LST 1942).

On the other hand, unless manned (if that's the right word) by an all-female crew, *Delphinium* and *Honeysuckle* (corvettes 1940) hardly seem to be names to boast about serving aboard in the dockside bars of Portsmouth and Plymouth. Even worse would be to have *HMS Pansy* (sloop 1916) emblazoned on one's cap ribbon. And what would today's tough shellbacks make of serving in *Frolic* and *Fancy* (minesweepers 1943)?

The most *Extravagant* (fireship 1692) and inappropriate name for a ship of war is perhaps *Peace* (fireship 1687), although my own *Favourite* (corvette 1864) for the prize for inappropriateness is *Dove* (destroyer 1898). Or perhaps *Olive Branch* (fireship 1673) is a good candidate.

One suspects that the demands made by sailors in *Navy News* that they be allowed to sail away with the *Advantage* (18-gun ship 1613) of sounding "hard" were made with tongues in cheek. If so, the apparent controversy is best summed up by the name of a 26-gun vessel of 1546, *Bull*.

Anyway, it is to be doubted whether any attempt to *Badger* (destroyer 1911) the First Sea Lord, who has the last say in naming ships, will meet with *Success* (destroyer 1918). So *Hard Lines* (requisitioned boom defence vessel 1915).

Yours faithfully,
PETER ELPHICK,
Dorney House, Dorney,
Buckinghamshire SL4 6QW.
March 28.

From Captain P. R. D. Kimm, RN (retd)

Sir, I am not with the sailors who find that ships' names such as *Norfolk* make them think of road maps. What they should be reminded of are the exploits of previous ships of the name which, in *Norfolk*'s case, range from an action off Cartagena, Colombia, in 1741 to the *Bismarck* and *Scharnhorst* battles of the Second World War.

The same goes for the "soft" names to which they object from the animal kingdom: *Starling*'s wartime service, for example, under Captain F. J. Walker, whose name has only recently appeared in your columns (letters, March 20 and 24), was second to none.

However, when it comes to the flora they may have a point. It is the custom of the Service, when a boat approaches a ship at anchor in the dark, for it to be hailed; and when a commanding officer is embarked, the correct response is for the coxwain to call out his (the CO's) ship's name. If the officer concerned is the captain of, say, *Brilliant*, *Superb* or *Excellent* this is quite good for his morale, but I wonder how poor *Pansy*, *Cowslip* and *Tulip* felt?

Yours sincerely,
PETER KIMM,
69 New Brighton Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 7QR.
March 29.

From the Very Reverend Christopher Lewis, Dean of St Albans

Sir, You report that some in the Royal Navy want ships to be macho and are unhappy about calling one *HMS St Albans* because it sounds as if it is named after a shopping centre.

Alban was sufficiently strong to resist persecution and to refuse to worship the Roman Emperor. He faced death fearlessly and became the first British martyr, as recorded by Bede.

Just by the way, Alban is a better bet as patron saint for England than the present incumbent. George only stood up to dragons and probably didn't exist.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER LEWIS,
The Deanery,
Sumpter Yard,
St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1BY.
March 30.

From Mr Martyn Compton

Sir, Today's sailors should spare a thought for their predecessors in the 1960s, some of whom had to go ashore with *Gay Charger* or *Gay Fencer* emblazoned above their foreheads.

Yours faithfully,
M. T. COMPTON
(Royal Navy, 1961-70),
19 Ashley Road,
Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 7EZ.
March 28.

Small claims

From Mr P. G. Ashford

Sir, Sarah Rowlands's article, "A little legal nightmare" (Law, March 17; see also letters, March 23), shows that winning your case under the small claims procedure is only the start of the battle when it should be almost the end.

The honest man in the street (for whose benefit the procedure is principally supposed to exist) could reasonably expect failure of a losing defendant to settle an award determined by a court to be a contempt of court, with a consequent short sharp punishment. Failure by the defendant to settle an adjudicated debt (without reasonable cause and within appropriate safeguards) should automatically engage him in unprofitable conflict with the court.

As a starting suggestion, why cannot a small claims award be due at the latest 28 days from judgment? A payment failure notified to the court would immediately increase the award by, perhaps, 50 per cent as compensation, with the same additional amount payable as a fine to the court (or whatever greater sum covers court expenses). Any continuing failure to pay is then an issue between the plaintiff and the court.

What is the point of a proven justified claim before a court if it is not the end of the matter?

Yours etc,
P. G. ASHFORD,
54 Aldershot Road,
Fleet, Hampshire GU13 9NT.
March 25.

Commons traditions

From the Leader of the House of Commons

Sir, You report today that I have been overruled on proposals for House of Commons modernisation, namely reform of the Queen's Speech ceremony, the shape of the chamber and electronic voting.

Some facts: first, the Queen's Speech ceremony is not a matter for the Government or even the House of Commons. It has never even been discussed by the House of Commons select committee on modernisation that I chair.

Second, I am on record as having a personal preference for retaining the present shape of the chamber. The committee has not debated the matter.

Third, the committee has commissioned a feasibility study on electronic voting and has yet to make a final recommendation on this issue, although the committee shares my view that MPs must vote in the vicinity of the voting lobbies in order to retain the opportunity for backbenchers to keep in touch with ministers.

Yours faithfully,
ANN TAYLOR,
House of Commons.
March 30.

Time warps

From Mr John P. Chambers

Sir, Most newspapers last Saturday, including your own, reminded us to put our clocks forward at 2am for Summer Time. The last time that we advanced our clocks at that hour of the morning was in 1980; since then Summer Time has always started (and ended) at 1am Greenwich Mean Time (ie, 2am Summer Time).

Since October 22, 1995, all the EU member states have changed to and from Summer Time at the same instant, so when we go forward at 1am the French and Germans go forward at 2am and the Finns and Greeks at 3am.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. CHAMBERS,
Centre for Time Metrology,
National Physical Laboratory,
Queens Road, Teddington TW11 0LN.
March 30.

From the Reverend M. K. Snellgrove

Sir, Today we put the clocks forward, some three months after the darkest morning. On October 25 we shall put them back, only two months before that occasion.

If we were to adjust the hour at the beginning of March rather than at the end we would save ourselves more than a day's length of useful light.

Yours truly,
MARTIN SNELLGROVE,
St John's Vicarage,
160 Borras Road,
Rhosnesni, Wrexham LL13 9ER.
March 29.

Tax on motoring

From the Group Policy Manager of the Automobile Association

Sir, I'm sorry that Dr Robert Davis (letter, March 24) interprets the AA's advertisements in the March 19 issue of *The Times* as a call for all motoring tax to be spent on roads and public transport.

Our call was for all *extra* motoring taxation to be spent in this way. For six Budgets motorists have been taxed way above the inflation rate, while transport spending has plummeted. Motorists more than pay their way: all we are asking for on their behalf is a fair deal.

Incidentally, beer and tobacco are not more highly taxed than motoring.

Yours faithfully,
BERT MORRIS,
Group Policy Manager,
The Automobile Association,
Norfolk House, Priestley Road,
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9NY.
March 24.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

'Savage effects' of crisis in Indonesia

From the Director of Oxfam

Sir, Political leaders from European and Asian nations will gather in London on April 2 for the second Asia-Europe meeting. The financial crisis affecting the once admired Asian "tiger" economies will be on the agenda; but what of the ordinary people at the sharp end of this crisis? Oxfam is concerned that governments and the International Monetary Fund could be placing the interests of the global financial community above those of the poor.

Indonesia, whose people have proved that poverty is not inevitable, provides a striking example of what needs to be done. In addition to its devastating forest fires and drought (report, March 27; see also letters, March 25), the whole country is experiencing the savage effects of the ongoing economic crisis.

Efforts by the Government and the responsible international bodies are not enough to prevent terrible suffering affecting a rapidly growing number of Indonesians. Rising unemployment, soaring prices and serious food shortages mean that many Indonesian households can no longer afford basic healthcare, or to send their children to school or to buy enough food.

Oxfam is now providing emergency aid in Indonesia. The IMF, governments of the G8 countries and the Indonesian Government can do much more if they choose. Among the measures needed are an immediate increase in funding for targeted food aid and public works projects, removing business monopolies and easing the country's foreign exchange problems, so that small and medium-sized businesses can survive and contribute to slowing down the growth in unemployment.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BRYER,
Director,
Oxfam,
274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ.
March 27.

Muntjac deer

From Mr Dennis R. H. Levy, FZS

Sir, Whipsnade was not one of the parks where muntjacs were introduced "at the turn of the century" ("And the buck stops here", Weekend, March 21). The premises, previously a farm, were not purchased by the Zoological Society of London until about 1928, when a special Act of Parliament permitted the development of the estate as a zoo.

This was pretty much the world's first country zoo, the nearest precedents being rich men's estates, such as those at Tring and Woburn which you mention. Whipsnade opened to the public in May 1931. The previous year the then Duke of Bedford had presented it with 12 muntjacs, presumably from his flourishing group at Woburn.

Muntjacs exist in a number of forms in southern and eastern Asia. Some years ago I had correspondence with The British Deer Society about the identity of the many now feral in Britain and it admitted that it was not totally certain. The Woburn and early Whipsnade ones were often described as Indian muntjacs, which must mean one of the numerous races or subspecies of *Muntiacus muntjac*, found from India through southeast China to various islands, including Borneo and Java.

Nowadays the Whipsnade animals are listed as *Muntiacus reevesi*, quite a different animal, found in southern China, plus probably Taiwan. The two species seem to have interbred in numerous places. The current Whipsnade specimens, and most of those feral in Britain, look to me like species of muntjac, but not quite as much so as they did in the 1930s.

Yours etc,
DENNIS R. H. LEVY,
25 Cedar Avenue,
Christchurch, Dorset BH23 2PS.
March 21.

Joan Lestor

From Lord Callaghan of Cardiff

Sir, Your obituary of Joan Lestor (March 30) says that when I was Foreign Secretary in 1975 I "had her shifted back to education".

That is not so. Education was always her first love, and it may be that she made it clear to Harold Wilson that she would be more at home in that department, but I did not precipitate the change.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES CALLAGHAN,
House of Lords.
March 30.

Spring migration

From Mr A. J. Saunders

Sir, On my travels this weekend I could not help but notice that there were hundreds of caravans on the move, presumably to their summer spawning grounds of the countryside and coastline.

This is the earliest migration I have seen; is this another manifestation of the El Niño effect?

Yours etc,
A. J. SAUNDERS,
16 Silchester Way,
Westlea, Swindon SN5 7EA.
March 30.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
March 30: Lady Dugdale has *succeeded the Lady Susan Hussey* as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 30: The Princess Royal, Patron, Northern Lighthouse Board, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, this afternoon visited *Bressay Lighthouse*, Shetland, and this evening attended a *Dinner* on board *MV Pharos*.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Shetland (Mr John Scott).

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 30: The Duke of Kent, President-in-Chief, the British Racing Drivers' Club, this afternoon visited Reynard Racing Cars Limited, Telford Road, Bicester, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire (Mr Hugo Brunner).

His Royal Highness, Vice Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, later visited Solid State Logic Limited, Begbroke, Oxford.

The Duke of Kent afterwards opened Export Week of the Business Link Heart of England at Blenheim Palace, Woodstock.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince Edward, as Trustee, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will *attend the "Magnificent 7" dinner* at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel, 2 Cadogan Place, London SW1, at 7.15.

The Princess Royal, as Patron, Northern Lighthouse Board, will visit Fair Isle South Lighthouse, *Fair Isle, Shetland*.

Princess Alexandra, as President of the Friends of the V&A, will attend a reception for the British Galleries Appeal at the Victoria and Albert Museum at 7.00.

The Duke of Kent, as President, *the Automobile Association, will* attend an informal dinner of the *chairman's committee*, aboard the Port of London Authority Launch *Royal Nore*, Tower Pier, London EC3, at 7.15.

Dinner

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, and the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Max Phillips, *were present* at a dinner held by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff last night. The guest speaker was the Hon Sir Rocco Forte. RF Hotels Ltd. Sir Geoffrey Inkin, *Chairman, Cardiff Bay* Development Corporation, presided.

Birthdays today

The Marquess of Ailesbury, 72; Professor Patrick Bateson, FRS, Provost, King's College, Cambridge, 60; Mr Richard Chamberlain, actor, 63; Mr Robbie Coltrane, actor, 48; Sir Roger Cork, former Lord Mayor of London, 51; Mr John Fowles, writer, 72; Sir John James, former Secretary and Keeper of the Records, Duchy of Cornwall, 63; Mr John Kemp-Welch, *chairman, Stock Exchange*, 62; Sir Paul Lever, diplomat, 54; Sir Pat Lowry, former chairman, Acas, 78; the Rev Sir Derek Pattinson, former secretary-general, General Synod of the Church of England, 68; the Right Rev John Roberts, former Abbot of Downside, 79; Mrs Daphne Robertson, Sheriff of Lothian and Borders at Edinburgh, 61; Lord Rollo, 55; the Earl of Rosslyn, 40; *Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock*, gastro-enterologist, 80; Sir Derek Spencer, QC, 62; Lord Steel of Aikwood, 60; Lord Trefgarne, 57; Professor Sir Frederick Warner, FRS, chemical engineer, 88; Mr Sidney Weighell, trade unionist, 76; *Mr Nicholas Winterton, MP*, 60.

Rhodes Trust

Dr John Rowett, Fellow and Tutor of Brasenose College, Oxford, has been appointed Secretary of the Rhodes Trust and Warden of Rhodes House from September 1, 1999.



ENGLISH HERITAGE

Lulworth Castle today — reroofed, retimbered and with its outer walls rebuilt but its interior still bare

Fire-ravaged castle is restored for £5m

BY JOHN YOUNG

WITH country houses all over Britain needing expensive repairs, to spend more than £5 million on rebuilding a ruined castle might seem an eccentric extravagance. But the opening of Lulworth Castle, in Dorset, to the public today marks the completion of a remarkable eight-year project by English Heritage in partnership with the family that owned the castle for nearly three and a half centuries.

Lulworth is, or was, a relatively recent ruin, destroyed by a savage fire on August 27, 1929. The castle was built in about 1606 as a grandiose hunting lodge by Lord Howard of Bindon, who hoped to tempt King James I down for a spot of deer chasing. In 1641 the 15,000-acre estate, including the main house, The Mount, was bought by Humphrey Weld, grandson of a self-made entrepreneur, a Grocers' Company apprentice who became Lord Mayor of London.

At the outbreak of the Civil War Humphrey raced to the King's side and was duly punished by having his estate confiscated and The Mount occupied by Parliamentary troops who burnt it down. After the Restoration he was able to buy the land back and converted the castle into his home.

The family prospered, and in 1780 Thomas Weld, known as Thomas the Builder, commissioned the architect John Tasker to remodel the castle to a standard of opulence that caused it to be described, with perhaps a touch of exaggeration, as "the most magnificent seat in the country".

In keeping with the fashion of *the time, part of the village of East* Lulworth had already been demolished to allow the creation of an elegant landscaped park. King George III found the castle and its setting so agreeable that he became a regular visitor; in return he agreed to the building of a new chapel — the first free-standing Roman Catholic place of worship to be built since the Reformation.

The Lulworth idyll, like so many others, was brutally interrupted by the First World War. In 1916, the Army requisitioned about 1,100 acres of the estate to test its new weapon, the tank. After the war it continued to lease the land until hostilities recommenced in 1939, when the Government compulsorily purchased some 8,000 acres of the Purbeck peninsula, including about 3,000 from the Welds. The ranges are still in active use, and locals have learnt to live with red flags and gunfire.

For the Welds a far worse tragedy was the fire that left them homeless. Herbert, then head of the family, effectively retired to London while his son managed the estate but lived in the village. His grandson, Wilfrid, the present owner, made plans to build a house for himself and his family on the site of the castle, but was dissuaded by the Department of the Environment which undertook to carry out repairs to prevent further deterioration.

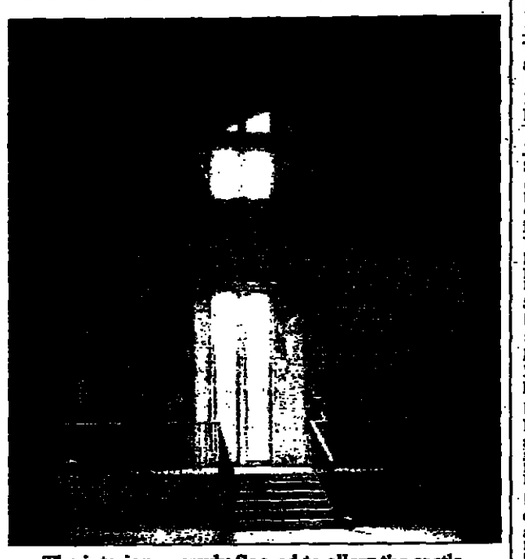
In 1984, it passed into the guardianship of English Heritage, which had taken over the department's responsibility for historic buildings. The idea then was to leave it as a ruin, but it soon became clear that, without protection from the elements, the brittle chalk walls would continue to crumble.

The only solution, expensive and time-consuming though it would prove, was to rebuild the walls to their original height, replace the doors, windows and much of the timberwork, and crown them with a new roof.

Today's visitors may be disappointed to find only an almost empty shell, but in its gorgeous setting it is a romantic and beguiling one. The view from the 80ft tower across to the Purbeck Hills and the sea beyond is well worth the climb.

English Heritage's work on the castle, costing some £3.6 million, has included the installation of a new wooden floor that will enable it to be used for functions. Day-to-day management will be left to Wilfrid and his son James, who have invested a further £1.5 million into making it a viable tourist attraction. The Welds hope that it will lure some of the tens of thousands of summer visitors to Lulworth Cove, a well-known beauty spot that is also part of the estate.

Wilfrid, a genial chartered surveyor, is clearly thrilled by the reopening: "It's always been the flagship of the estate but we could never have done the restoration on our own. Now there will be people dining and dancing in the building again after nearly 70 years. I think that's wonderful."



The interior — newly floored to allow the castle to be used for dancing and dining



Humphrey Weld, who bought the estate in 1641

School news

Abingdon School
The annual Foundation Dinner of Abingdon School was held at the School on Friday, March 27, when the Governing Body, staff and Foundation Scholars entertained benefactors, representatives from universities, other schools, local businesses and the community. The Headmaster presided and Sir Geoffrey Whalen, CBE, proposed the health of the School. Dr Evan Harris, MP, and Mr Graham Mather, MEP, were among others present.

Beaudesert Park School
The 90th Anniversary Old Beaudesertians' Day is on May 17, 1998. If you have not received details please ring 01453 832072.

Luncheon

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Roy MacLaren, Canadian High Commissioner, was the guest of honour at a luncheon held yesterday at Over-Seas House. Sir Geoffrey Ellerton, chairman, presided.

Latest wills

Joseph Samuel Chinn, of Tanworth-in-Arden, Warwickshire, left estate valued at £10,179,044 net.

Norman Gordon Benson, of London W9, left estate valued at £815,868 net.

John Fairer-Smith, of London SW3, left estate valued at £2,030,527 net.
He left £2,500 to RSAF Regimental Association.

Robert Stuart Fellowes, of Yoxford, Saxmundham, Suffolk, left estate valued at £1,080,716 net.
He left £1,000 to Imperial Cancer Research.

Susan Heather Violet Gray, of London SW10, left estate valued at £969,137 net.

Margaret Diana Middleton Habgoood, of Sallhouse, Norwich, left estate valued at £1,431,052 net.

Freda Mary Key, of Framingham Earl, Norwich, left estate valued at £765,958 net.
She left £500 to All Hallows' Hospital, Ditchingham, and to Mundham Church.

Kazimierz Stanislaw Krzanowski, of London W10, left estate valued at £763,671 net.
He left £2,500 to the Polish Roman Catholic church, London W12, and £1,500 to the Polish Jesuit Fathers of London, NW2.

Arthur Harold Lightfoot, of East Cowes, Isle of Wight, left estate valued at £711,055 net.
He left his residuary estate to Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

Anne Margaret MacTaggart, of Basingstoke, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,180,735 net.
She left £2,500 to the Royal Scottish Corporation.

Joyce Lilian Dudley Marmo-Edwards, of Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk, left estate valued at £1,159,372 net.
She left £500 to Clare United Reformed Church.

Alan Spiers, of Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, left estate valued at £1,017,144 net.
He left £3,000 to the National Opera Studio.

On March 10 we reported that the Yehudi Menuhin School had been left half a residuary estate of just over £1million. In fact, conditions to the bequest and a later codicil mean that the school will not receive anything from that particular estate.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.G. Armstrong and Miss M.C. Dawson
The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Armstrong, of Nailsea, North Somerset, and Marlise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Dawson, of Beverly Hills, California.

Dr S.D.T. Axford and Miss E.J. Fumning
The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of the late Dr Douglas Axford and of Mrs Axford, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, and Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr Peter Fumning and of Mrs Fumning, of Dunstable, Bedfordshire.

Mr K. Green and the Hon H. Roper-Curzon
The engagement is announced between Kevin, only son of Mr and Mrs William Green, of Lancashire, and Henrietta, eldest daughter of the late Lord Teynham and of Mrs Ian Edwards, of Hampshire.

Mr M.G. Jenkinson and Miss A.S. Crookshank
The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Jenkinson, of Eaton Hastings, Oxfordshire, and Antonia Scarlett, daughter of Mr John Crookshank, of Westbourne, Hampshire, and Mrs Denis O'Brien, of London and St Louis, USA.

Mr N.J. Levene and Miss T.E. Bell
The engagement is announced between Neil, only son of Mr and Mrs Leon Levene, of Clifton, Bristol, and Tamsin, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Bell, of Sevenoaks, Kent.

Mr M.J. Press and Miss S.F. French
The engagement is announced between Matthew James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Dixon Press, of Blackboys, East Sussex, and Suzanna Frances, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard French, of Limpsfield, Surrey.

Church of Scotland

Ordination and Induction
The Rev Richard Houston, to High, Airdrie.
The Rev Mark M. Foster, to Dean, Edinburgh.
The Rev Anna S. Moran, to Langbank.
The Rev David G. Hamilton, to Braes of Rannoch with Foss and Rannoch.

Introduction
The Rev Bernard P. Lodge, as Interim Minister to Juniper Green, Edinburgh.
The Rev Mary Weir, as Community Minister for Deaf People and Minister at Albany Deaf Church, Edinburgh.

Induction
The Rev John A.H. Murdoch, to Glamis, Inverarity and Kinnettles

Translations
The Rev Robert J.V. Logan, from Crown, Inverness to Abdie and Dunbog with Newburgh; the Rev Russel Moffat, from St Kane's, New Deer to Dyce, Aberdeen; the Rev Alan MacGregor, from Kirkconnel to Banff with King Edward; the Rev Ronald G. Greig, from Redgorton with Stanley to High, Bathgate.

Retirements
The Rev Alex J. Geddes, from St Columba's, Stewarton.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: René Descartes, philosopher, La Haye, France, 1596; John Harrison, horologist and inventor of the marine chronometer, Foulby, near Pontefract, 1693; Franz Joseph Haydn, composer, Rohrau, Austria, 1732; Nicolai Gogol, novelist and dramatist, Poltava, 1809; Edward Fitzgerald, translator of *Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam*, Bredfield, Suffolk, 1809; Robert Bunsen, chemist, Gottingen, Germany, 1811; John La Farge, mural painter, New York, 1835; Andrew Lang, writer and collector of folk tales, Selkirk, 1844; Rodney (Gypsy) Smith, evangelist, near Epping Forest, 1860; Arthur Griffith, Irish statesman, Dublin, 1872; Jack Johnson, boxing champion, Galveston, Texas, 1878.

DEATHS: John Donne, poet, Dean of St Paul's 1621-31, London, 1631; John Constable, painter, London, 1837; Charlotte Brontë, writer, Haworth, Yorkshire, 1855; Lady Charlotte Bury, novelist, London, 1861; John Pierpont Morgan, financier, Rome, 1913; Emil von Behring, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate 1901, Marburg, Germany, 1917; Medardo Rosso, sculptor, Milan, 1928; Jesse Owens, athlete, Tucson, Arizona, 1980.

Napoleon abdicated, 1814.

The Eiffel Tower was inaugurated, 1889.

The Church in Wales was disestablished, 1920.

The Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl published an English translation of his account of the Kon-Tiki expedition, 1950.

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

God forbid that I should boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to me and I to the world, Galatians 6 : 14

BIRTHS

AL THANI - On March 26th at The Portland Hospital to Khalid and Mashael, a son, Jassim, a brother for Zaiba.

CARGE - On 28th March to Kate (née Birch) and Patrick, a daughter, Tabitha Rachel Esther.

CUTHBERT - On 25th March to Alison and Mike, twin daughters, Isla Katherine and Sophie Alice, sisters to Jamie and Fenella.

DAVIES - On March 29th 1998 to Candida Ruth (née Wright) and Martin, a beautiful son, Joshua Zvi.

DE-SANTIS - On March 23rd at The Portland Hospital to Melissa and Nicolas, a daughter, Alaia. Mom and Dad love you.

DODD-MOSLE - On March 26th at The Portland Hospital to Sally (née Wallis) and Tom, a daughter, Emily Louisa Diana.

FITZGERALD - On 30th March 1998 to Sarah (née Burgess) and Michael, a son, William Dominic Burgess.

GACHOUD - On March 25th at The Portland Hospital to Miranda (ée Hickman) and Marc, a daughter, Christina.

JEROME SMITH-SOLEAKKEN - On March 21st at The Portland Hospital to Rebecka and Claes, two daughters, Dakota and Amelia.

KNOWLES - On 30th March at Leeds General Infirmary to Kim and Peter, a son, Nathanael Peter

MENAGED - On March 27th at The Portland Hospital to Sukil and Michael, a son, Maximilian and Guy, a brother for Sophie and Lucy.

MESZAROS - On March 22nd at The Portland Hospital to Susan Ferry and Steve Meszaros, a son, Thomas William Ferry Meszaros.

MISKOV - On March 26th at The Portland Hospital, to Dessislava and Ivica, a son, Alexander, a brother for Nikola.

RAY - On 28th March 1998 to Jacqueline (née Ward) and Rick, a daughter Eleanor Grace - a sister and fellow mscal for Katherine.

SANTAMBROGIO - On March 22nd at The Portland Hospital to Anne-Catherine (née Van Der Maesch) and Luigi, a daughter, Capucine.

SLAGHEKKE - On March 26th at The Portland Hospital to Nicole and Jon, a daughter, Tasmijn Christiana, a little sister for Fleur

WOOD - On March 24th at The Portland Hospital to Leslie (née Aiser) and David, a daughter, Ashley, a sister for Conner.

SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

FRASER - Jacky and Ken. Congratulations, love from Pyn, Mum and Dad Fraser, Mum and Ded Wade.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

MACFARLANE-BARROW - On 31st March 1938 at the Parish Church of St James, Castle Eden, County Durham, Charles Alistair Macfarlane to Kathleen (Kirstie) Nimmo.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BUTCHER - Beatrice and the family of the late Leslie Edward wish to express their sincere thanks to everyone who sent cards and messages of sympathy during their recent sad loss and for the beautiful floral tributes received. Thank you to all who attended the Funeral Service at Pen Ditton Church, their presence was a great comfort. Please accept this as the only but most sincere acknowledgement.

DEATHS

BIRDON - Francis John Leopold on 28th March 1998 beloved husband of Doreen, devoted father to Peter and Julia and fond grandpa to Lisa, Sarah, Thomas and George. Funeral Service at Bangor Crematorium on Thursday April 2nd at 2.00pm. Family flowers only, but donations to British Heart Foundation c/o R O Davies Limited, 29 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 1NF.

BUTLER - Nora Ida (née Reynolds, formerly Ingram-Marriott) suddenly but peacefully surrounded by her ever loving son John, grandaughters and family on March 27th in Exeter. Service of Thanksgiving at St Michael's Church, Ottaton, Devon, Friday April 3rd at 12.30 pm followed by interment. Flowers if wished, or, donations to Bonfleigh Salterton & District Hospicare c/o Palmers Funeral Service, 45 High Street, Bonfleigh Salterton, Devon. EX9 6LF. Tel 01395 442252.

CHARLTON - Margaret, (née Smith) peacefully at home on 29th March 1998, aged 93 years. Dearly loved by Jean, Shirley and John and her extended family. Funeral Service at Woodvale Crematorium, Brighton on Monday 6th April at 12.45pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, for Hope in The Valley or Ditchling Museum, may be sent to Bowley Funeral Service 30 Keymer Road, Hassocks BN6 8AN Tel: 01273 841711.

CHURCHILL - Judith Mary. On March 26th suddenly at home aged 83. She will be greatly missed. Dearly beloved wife of George, mother of Ann, Colin and Martin, grand-mother of Ben, Camilla, Carol, Linda, Sam, Sam, Tina, Tom and Zella, great grand-mother of Poppy and mother-in-law of Rachel and Sheila. Funeral service at Golders Green Crematorium 3.00pm Thursday 2 April. All friends are invited.

COATES - John Emsley, of Calcot, died on March 27th 1998, in his 83rd year, much loved and loving husband of Barbara (née Goulet). Retired Consultant Ophthalmologist. Private cremation followed by Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church, Calcot, Derbyshire at 2.45pm, on Monday 6th April. No flowers, donations if wished for the R.N.I.B may be sent c/o G Wathall and Son Ltd., 101 Macklin Street, Derby. DE1 1LG.

COGNILL-SMITH - Alan (Paddy), aged 68, on the 26th March at home, after a galloping illness, beloved husband of Elizabeth (Biddy), cherished father of Melinda, Fiona and Hugh, much loved Father-in-law, Brother and Grandfather of six. Thanksgiving Service at St. Leonards Church, Pitcombe, Nr. Bruton on Friday 3rd April at 3.30 pm. Donations in lieu of flowers to Marie Curie Care c/o Oswald Clarke, West End, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0BB Tel: 01749 813327.

CURTIS - On 28th March, Elizabeth Lysett (Lisa) aged 75 years, of Hinton St George. Mother of Rosemary. Funeral Monday 6th April 11.15am, Hinton St George Church. No black ties please. Family flowers, donations for P.D.S.A. c/o Snoddey and Son, Funeral Directors, Crewkerne, Somerset - 01460 73229.

D'AUBNEY - Doris Ada. Died on 18th March 1998 aged 86 after a short illness. Much loved mother of Malcolm. For further details Telephone 0171 925 0303 Extension 16.

DENVY - On 25th March 1998, Phyllis, aged 88 years, widow of Arthur, much loved Mother of Sheila. Sadly missed by all her family. Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Wadhurst, East Sussex on Wednesday 8th April at 2.00 pm. Family flowers only but donations if wished to Diabetic Research, c/o C Waterhouse & Sons, High Street, Burwash. E Sx. TN19 7ET. Tel: 01435 882219.

DOUGLAS - Archie, aged 90, peacefully on 27th March in Jersey. Father of Janet and Alison, proud grandfather and great-grandfather. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to the Samaritans, Jersey.

FRANKLIN - On March 28th 1998 in Harrogate, Olive (née Rowland) aged 94 years. Beloved wife of the late Peter Franklin. Dear mother of Anne, Anthony, Caroline and the late David. A loved grandmother and GG. Enquiries Swainsons 01423 504571.

GAY - Yolande Elizabeth Lyell on 30th March 1998 peacefully at Cambridge New Zealand. Formerly with G.H.Q. until I.E.O. 1948-52. Councillorship, S.W. Wiltshire Girl Guides Association 1959-65 Provincial Commissioner Waikato New Zealand. 1969-81. N.Z.G.G.A. National Council 1972-75. Justice of the Peace from 1976. Awarded Queen's Service Order 1980. Dearly loved wife for 46 years of David Gay of 5/47 Bryce St, Cambridge New Zealand.

HARRISON - Marryn George on 28th March 1998, peacefully after a long illness. (Formerly of Bristol and St Mawes). Much loved and loving husband of Betty, devoted father of Peter and Edmund, father-in-law of Christine and grandfather of Ben and William. Cremation at Exeter & Devon Crematorium on Friday April 3rd at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to R.N.L.I. (Skinnouth) c/o Pethey's Funeral Service, High Street, Sidmouth.

HARRIS - Phyllis Maud Rach. On 28th March 1998, peacefully in her sleep after a short illness, in her 96th year, Phyl, much loved wife of Billie, mother of Colin and aunt and great-aunt. Funeral at St Mary's, Stoke d'Abernon, Surrey, on Monday April 6th at 3.45pm. Family flowers only, please, but donations if desired to Save the Children Fund, care of Messrs James & Thomas 9/9 Mill Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 2AL (Tel: 01932-862009).

HENROD - Hazel passed away 27th March aged 61. Woefully missed. Funeral Service on Friday 3rd April 1998 at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, at 12.30 pm. No flowers by request but donations to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children. Rock on Hazel!

HICKS - David Nightingale, died Sunday afternoon 29th March 1998, in his seventieth year, after a manfully short fight against cancer, peacefully, at home in bed looking out over his beloved garden, surrounded by his adoring family. Funeral this Saturday 4th April 11.30 am at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Ewelme, Oxfordshire. Memorial Service in London to follow in early summer.

HYDE - John Charles on March 27th. Dearly beloved husband of Finda and father of Matthew and Bridget. Funeral Friday April 3rd 12 noon, Yeovil Crematorium. Family flowers only. Enquiries A E Stoodley & son, Funeral Directors Crewkerne. Tel.01460 73229.

KENNEDY - Tony (R.L.) of Ashtead Surrey on 27th March, unexpectedly but peacefully. Loving and beloved husband of Judith, father of Robin and Helen, grandfather of Rachael and brother of Roy and Derek. Cremation, formerly Hoogewerf, East House, St John's, Leatherhead. Funeral Service Friday 3rd April Leatherhead Parish Church 2.30 pm. Donations preferred. Enquiries to Hawkins & Sons 01372 372435.

LYDALL - On March 28th 1998 in Suffolk, Edward aged 90 years. LCS. Husband of Norah. Cremation Private. Memorial Service to be announced later.

McCLOY - On March 28th 1998 suddenly at Home, Major Arthur Craig McCloy Retired R.A. Force 133 and 136, aged 77 years. Sadly missed by his wife Hazel, sons Matthew and Patrick, daughter Laura and Grandchildren Alexander, Rebecca and Charles. Funeral Service at St Marys Church, Collingbourne Kingston on Thursday April 2nd at 2.30pm. No flowers but donations for the R.A. Benevolent Fund.

MOORE - Joan Gwendolyn, on 27th March, after a fight with a long and painful illness borne with brave spirit and articulate description. Beloved wife of Peter, Founder and senior tutor NSPCC, School of Social work and child care consultant. Funeral Service at St Philipps Church, New Church Road, Hove, on Saturday 4th April at 11.30 am followed by private cremation. Flowers, or if preferred donations for the Martlets Hospice may be sent to Nigel Dungate Funeral Service, 143 Sackville Road, Hove. Tel: 01273 204410.

PETER - On 29th March, 1998, peacefully after a short illness, Margaret (Peggy) Kennedy Peter (née Patton), aged 82 years of Thornhill, near Stirling, Scotland. Beloved wife of Ken, loving mother of Tony and much loved by her daughter-in-law Christine. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Thornham on Thursday 2nd April at 2.00 pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Fakenham & District Crossroads Schemes may be sent to:- John Lincoln WD 40 Graveyards Hemsingham Norfolk PE36 6AR.

PETTIGREW - On March 28th aged 91, peacefully at home, Dora sister of the late Katherine (Kitty) Pettigrew and daughter of the late Robert and Winifred Pettigrew. Funeral Mass will be held on Friday 3rd April at 11 am at St Peter's Church, Dalbeattie. Thereafter to Coldeal churchyard to which all friends are respectfully invited to attend.

PHILIPS - Major Robert Erskine Philips MC, late Coldstream Guard. Died after a long illness in hospital on March 28th. Funeral 2nd April 11.30am St Peter's Church, Over Wallop.

WOLFENDEN - John suddenly in France on March 27th aged 74.

WOODCOCK - Peacefully on 25th March 1998 in St Catherine's Hospice Crawley, Doreen Chadwick, daughter of the late Dr Henry Chadwick and Dora Woodcock. Dearly loved by all who knew her. Funeral Service at St Cosmas and St Damian Church, Keynsor followed by private cremation on Saturday 4th April at 11am. Cut flowers only or donations for St Catherine's Hospice may be sent to Frank Dorey & Co, 31 High Street, Hunstanton Norfolk PE36 5HL. Tel. 01485 532179.

WYNDHAM - Julia (née Ward) peacefully on March 25th 1998, aged 96. Beloved wife of the late Henry Wyndham and much loved sister, sister, great aunt & friend. Funeral Service at St John's Convent, Kiln Green on Thursday 2nd April at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for St John's Convent may be sent to A.R. Walker & Son Ltd, 36 Eldon Road, Reading, RG1 4DS. Tel: 0118 9573650.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CALLENDER - A Memorial Service will be held for Charles Callendi on Friday 3rd April 1998, at 2.30 pm. at St. Peter's Church, Bishops Rise, Hatfield, Hertfordshire. All friends and colleagues welcome.

HINKLEY - A Memorial Service for Professor Sir Harry Hinsley, O.B.E., M.A., F.B.A., Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge, and sometime Master, Emeritus Professor of the History of International Relations and sometime Vice-Chancellor, will be held in St John's College Chapel on Saturday 2nd May 1998 at 12 noon. Application forms for tickets may be obtained from the Chapel Clerk, St John's College, Cambridge, CB2 1TP.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

THOMPSON - On 27th March Rear Admiral John Tolverton Thompson, C.B., D.L., devoted husband of the late Barbara and father of Richard and Martin. Funeral at St. John the Baptist's Church, Mousehold, Oxfordshire on Tuesday 7th April at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Friends of the Elderly, 42 Ebury Street, London, SW1W 0LZ.

THOMSON - On March 25th 1998, suddenly, Simon Alexander aged 51 years, much loved son of Betty and brother to Rosalind and Isobel. The Funeral Service will take place at St Georges church, Ballies on Friday 3rd April at 10.30 am, followed by private cremation. Flowers if desired and any enquiries c/o R.Locke & Son, Ballies, OX15 5AZ. Tel: 01608-685274.

WOLFENDEN - John suddenly in France on March 27th aged 74.

WOODCOCK - Peacefully on 25th March 1998 in St Catherine's Hospice Crawley, Doreen Chadwick, daughter of the late Dr Henry Chadwick and Dora Woodcock. Dearly loved by all who knew her. Funeral Service at St Cosmas and St Damian Church, Keynsor followed by private cremation on Saturday 4th April at 11am. Cut flowers only or donations for St Catherine's Hospice may be sent to Frank Dorey & Co, 31 High Street, Hunstanton Norfolk PE36 5HL. Tel. 01485 532179.

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IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

DUFFY - Thomas Alexander d.3.1923 - 31.3.1988. Remembered with love "That best portion of a good man's life His little nameless unremembered acts of kindness and of love" (Wordsworth).

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OBITUARIES

FERRY PORSCHE

Ferdinand "Ferry" Porsche, Austrian car designer, died on March 27 aged 88. He was born on September 19, 1909.

The son of one of the most influential automotive designers of the century, Ferry Porsche collaborated with his father in the 1930s on projects which ranged from the radical V-16 Auto Union racing car to the bestselling Volkswagen Beetle. Taking over the family design business after the Second World War, he produced the first car to bear the Porsche name. He went on to see the marque become a byword for worldly success. Fast, loud, expensive and tricky to handle, a Porsche was every yuppie's dream vehicle in the adrenalin-fuelled 1980s boom.

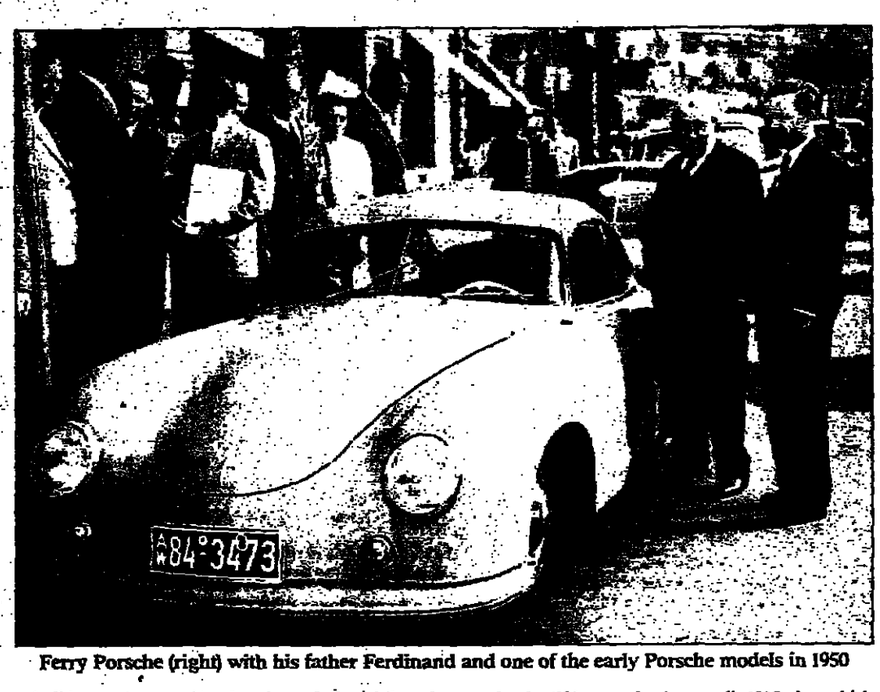
The Porsche business was built on deeper foundations than those of some its customers. The family had been involved with cars for almost as long as there had been cars to be involved with. Ferdinand Anton Ernst Porsche (always "Ferry") was born in Vienna, where his Czech-born father, also Ferdinand, was then working as technical director of the Austro-Daimler company. Ferdinand Sr had unveiled his first car design as early as 1900, when the Lohner-Porsche Chaise, driven by four hub-mounted electric motors, made its debut in the Austrian pavilion of the World Exhibition in Paris; the year after his son's birth, he produced a vehicle that could reach 85mph. In 1923 the family moved to Stuttgart, when Ferdinand Porsche joined Daimler-Benz, and it was there that Ferry was educated.

By then, the boy was already fascinated by cars; and already driving them, too. Expecting no more than a goat-cart for Christmas in 1920, he was delighted to receive instead his own scaled-down two-seater car, designed and built by his father and powered by a 3.5 horse-power, air-cooled, two-cylinder, four-stroke rear engine. Policemen turned a blind eye as the 11-year-old steered his unregistered vehicle through the streets of Vienna Neustadt. At the age of 12, the boy was allowed to help with the running-in of the new lightweight 1.5 litre Austro-Daimler Sascha.

In December 1930, when Ferdinand Porsche set up as an independent designer, the son joined his father in the business. One early project was the highly innovative Auto Union grand prix car, a lightweight design with a 16-cylinder supercharged engine mounted just behind the driver. Ferry helped his father with the design and construction, and also did some of the early test-driving (until Ferdinand remembered that he had plenty of drivers but only one son).

The firm's other great early success was the Volkswagen. Ferdinand Porsche's longstanding dream of a "people's car" was shared by Adolf Hitler. Design work began in 1934; prototypes were built in 1936; limited production for military use was established by the time war broke out; and the VW "Beetle" went on to become the world's most popular car. Ferry, shrewdly, had ensured that Porsche would receive a royalty on every Beetle sold.

Porsche prospered under the Nazis, profiting from the support of the regime. After the war, Ferdinand, on whom Hitler had bestowed the title of Professor, was imprisoned by the French until 1947. His son, however, was able to restart the business, which had been moved in 1944 from war-ravaged Stuttgart to the Austrian town of Gmund. There he decided to build a sports car, using plans he had drawn up in 1939 for a light, compact car based — of necessity — on the Volkswagen. The prototype — with aluminium bodywork, a VW suspension, and a tuned, rear-mounted, four-cylinder, 113cc VW engine — was finished in the spring of 1948. Small-scale production of the streamlined coupé was under way by the end of the year.



Ferry Porsche (right) with his father Ferdinand and one of the early Porsche models in 1950

Known as the 356, this was the first car to carry the Porsche name, and the first to embody the rugged glamour that would come to be associated with the marque. The design philosophy was simple: "If I build a car that gives me satisfaction," Ferry Porsche reasoned, "then there must be others with the same sort of dreams who would be prepared to buy such a car."

Fifty-two of the new models were built in Austria before production moved back to Stuttgart in March 1950, the year in which Porsche also began work on its own engine, the Carrera. Initial estimates had assumed that some five hundred 356s might be sold worldwide. That figure was reached as early as March 1951; the model remained in production until 1965, by which time more than 78,000 had been built.

Ferdinand Porsche died after a stroke in January 1951. By then Ferry was already effectively in charge, and determined both to raise the company's profile and to go on improving the quality of its cars. In June 1951 Porsche entered the 24-hour race at Le Mans for the first time, finishing first in its class and beginning a long and successful involvement in motor sport. Since 1970 the company has won a record 15 times at Le Mans, as well as winning the Monte Carlo Rally on four occasions. Porsche also built grand prix cars in the 1960s, one of which won the 1962 French Grand Prix, and in the 1980s it returned to grand prix as an engine supplier.

In September 1964 Porsche launched the classic 911 series, brainchild of Ferry's son Ferdinand (known as "Butzi"). Mounted behind the back axle it had a 1991cc flat-six engine, initially of 130bhp; bigger, more powerful versions were steadily introduced. With its distinctive curved silhouette, rapid acceleration, and unmistakable throaty growl, it became and remains one of the most desirable cars of all time, despite (or because of) being far from easy to drive.

Other models, such as the very fast Carrera RS of 1973 or the powerful 930 of a few years later, adhered to the basic formula which had brought Porsche sports cars their success. The recession and the oil crisis of the early 1970s prompted a new departure, however, in the shape of the Porsche 924. The fruit of an abortive partnership with Volkswagen, quite modestly priced, and with a water-cooled 1984cc engine at the front rather than the trademark air-cooled monster at the rear, the 924 was felt by its critics hardly to deserve the name of Porsche. But its introduction marked an upturn in the fortunes of a company whose sales had fallen in 1975 to a low of just over 9,000.

Porsche now found itself attempting to maintain a balance between the demands of customers who wanted a smart and reliable modern sports car, and those who insisted on the more primitive thrill of the original 911. The 924 developed eventually into the more authentically Porsche-like 944. The brash rear-engined 911, meanwhile, had some of its more terrifying quirks toned down, and was refined as much as it could be without alienating the huge cult following it had acquired.

This stylistic balancing act was not enough to protect Porsche from the effects of the late 1980s recession. Overseas sales had already been hit by a soaring deutschmark before the bottom fell out of the American market in the aftermath of the 1987 stock market crash. The demise of the big spenders on Wall Street and in the City of London hit Porsche hard, and in the year to July 1992 the company announced an unprecedented loss of DM68.5 million, having made profits of DM30.1 million the previous year.

Most of the other great prestige car marques had suffered a similar fate over the years; only the might of the multinationals could save them, and one by one they were taken over. Porsche, however, was determined to stay independent. But the family's influence had already been greatly reduced. A joint stock company was formed in 1972, at which point the family withdrew from active management, and Porsche was listed on the German stock exchange in 1984.

It was not until January 1993, however, that Ferry Porsche finally announced his retirement from the company he had created (though he retained an honorary role). His son Butzi stood down at the same time as chairman of the Porsche supervisory board (a post in which he had succeeded his father in 1990). The company's fortunes — always a useful economic indicator — have latterly revived. A new model of the 911 was unveiled at the most recent Frankfurt Motor Fair.

Ferry Porsche's wife Dorothea died in 1985. He is survived by his four sons.

JACK CRAINE

Jack Craine, Canadian broadcasting executive, died in London on March 16 aged 69. He was born on April 24, 1928.

IN HIS 44 years with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Jack Craine proved an eloquent and passionate ambassador not just for public broadcasting but for his country. His varied career embraced both radio and television, and took him from the CBC's Arctic operations to its offices in London, via the United Nations in New York. He made a decisive, pioneering contribution to Canadian broadcasting, guiding and shaping many of the elements of the CBC's output that are taken for granted today.

John Thornton Craine grew up in Lethbridge, Alberta. In the wide open landscape of the prairies, radio was an intellectual lifeline and link with the rest of the world. Listening to it night after night was an excellent preparation for a lifetime spent as a citizen of the globe. Craine's curiosity was boundless and, though he later seized the opportunity to travel widely (and became an active member of the Royal Geographical Society), he retained to the end of his days the habit of tuning in to distant stations on shortwave.

He joined the CBC in the early 1950s after graduating with a degree in English from the University of Alberta; as a student he had worked part-time as a radio announcer in Calgary. His first full-time job was with the CBC's shortwave



service, Radio Canada International, a miniature Bush House in Montreal, where he was a producer in the English Section. This was followed by three years' service in Lahr, in Germany, where he was involved in setting up and running the Canadian Forces Network for members of the Canadian Armed Services on Nato duties in Europe.

In 1958 he returned to Canada to become the first programme director for the CBC's new Northern Service. In this role he helped to set up a chain of radio stations across the Arctic, from Whitehorse in the Yukon to Inuvik, Yellowknife and Iqaluit in the Northwest Territories. In 1961 he became the CBC's United Nations representative in New York, and in 1963 he was the corporation's co-ordinator on the first transatlantic television broadcast on the Telstar satellite.

Craine's period of greatest influence came perhaps in the late 1960s and early 1970s, when he was managing director of CBC English Radio. It was a time when CBC Radio was losing its audience to television to an alarming degree. So grave did the situation become that in May 1969 the CBC board of directors decided that, unless the figures improved, the radio service would be discontinued.

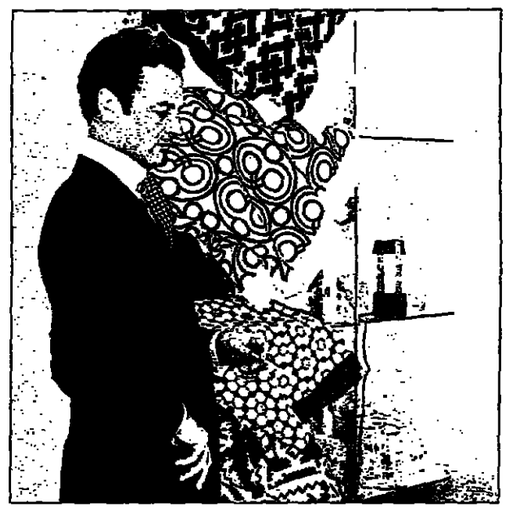
At this critical time — in many ways the CBC's darkest hour — Craine went into action. He oversaw a massive overhaul of the schedules and the introduction of a number of important new programming strands (just as he would later do for television as director of programming at CBC English Television in the 1980s). Under his leadership the radio service was revitalised to such an extent that today, nearly 30 years later, it is still what it set out to be — a public service, free of commercials and their accompanying constraints, unlike its television counterpart. Its continuing strength was evident as recently as the devastating ice storm in Quebec and Ontario in January this year, when public radio, in English and French, played an invaluable role.

The last five of Craine's years with the CBC were spent as director of its London office. In that capacity he was a regular and eloquent contributor to meetings of the European Broadcasting Union, and a lively participant in the activities of the Royal Television Society. He retired in 1995, free to devote himself to his many enthusiasms: aeroplanes, opera, cooking and Tibet. He continued, however, to lend his professional expertise to old friends, now in the private sector, who needed the advice of an imaginative and public-spirited broadcaster in creating speciality channels on cable television. He remained an avid traveller, visiting Australia, Bangkok and Singapore shortly before his death.

Jack Craine's wife Anne died suddenly in 1994; they had married in 1950. He is survived by their two daughters, one of whom, Debra, is dance critic of *The Times*, and by their son.

DAVID HICKS

David Hicks, interior decorator and designer, died on March 29 aged 69. He was born on March 25, 1929.



DAVID HICKS was interior decorator to the aristocracy. Over the years his clients included the Prince of Wales, Helena Rubinstein, Douglas Fairbanks, President Nkrumah of Ghana and the Sultan of Oman. He worked for the British Embassy in Washington, the government of New South Wales and — perhaps incongruously — for Aeroflot.

David Nightingale Hicks was born the son of a stockbroker in Coggeshall, Essex, and educated at Charterhouse and the Central School of Arts and Crafts in London. He served in the Army Education Corps, where he taught art. After two years spent travelling in Europe, he joined the advertising agency J. Walter Thompson, but at the same time he was decorating his mother's newly purchased house in South Eaton Place. The scheme was featured in *House and Garden* and soon brought him three prospective clients. Accordingly, he set up as a professional decorator.

In 1956 he went into partnership with the antiques dealer Tom Parr, and in 1959 he set up his own decorating firm, David Hicks Ltd, in Lowndes Street, undertaking decorative schemes for the London flats and country houses of many aristocratic patrons.

The design for the original nightclub in the *QE2* was Hicks's, and he designed many banks, offices, hotels and restaurants. He also decorated houses for the likes of Vidal Sassoon and John Schlesinger. In 1960 he married Lady Pamela Mountbatten, the younger daughter of Earl and Countess Mountbatten of Burma.

During the 1960s and early 1970s, Hicks became the epitome of the international designer, heading a large business with boutiques and associates in Switzerland, France, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Pakistan and Australia. In the tradition of earlier decorators such as Elsie de Wolfe and Syrie Maugham, he showed a flair for self-publicity. As the flamboyant but impeccably groomed Englishman with considerable snob-appeal, his pronouncements on taste were regarded as irresistible, especially, as he often noted himself, to the wealthy Americans who employed him precisely to tell them what kind of taste they should have.

David Hicks's style will perhaps be best remembered for his use of strong, plain "vibrating" colours, especially reds and pinks, which he combined with modern geometric designs for carpets and fabrics, antique furniture and often colourful contemporary paintings.

He seldom used floral designs and, from 1960, he designed his own carpets, often with distinctive textured geometric patterns, and ranges of wallpapers, furnishing fabrics, bedlinens and towels. He also designed furniture, ties, handbags, shoes and other accessories. BMW employed him to advise on its car interiors.

His eye for detail also led to his making handles, lamps, kitchenware, picture frames and even ashtrays for particular interiors.

He liked to mix the contemporary with the antique, setting furnishings and architectural details in the classical tradition against strong modern colours. An arranger by nature, he also claimed to have invented the "tablescape", the grouping of objects in telling arrangements, on the basis that one pebble on the beach on its own, for example, was nothing, but in relationship to others it formed a fascinating "stonescape". It was pointed out, however, that Jim Ede, the creator of the Kettle's Yard gallery in Cambridge, had been doing this sort of thing for decades.

David Hicks on Decoration, appeared in 1966, and he went on to publish eight more books on different aspects of decoration, including flower-arranging, bathrooms and garden design, a subject that occupied him more and more in the 1980s.

In his late fifties, he became increasingly interested in complete architectural schemes, and undertook the architecture, garden design and interior of a large Palladian villa in Portugal.

In 1977 he was Master of the Worshipful Company of Salters, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather before him.

He leaves three children, Edwina, Ashley and India.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 AND IN THE MATTER OF CHARTER TRE DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED
CHARTER TRE DEVELOPMENTS (OZAR) LIMITED
Registered Office: 72 London Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1NS
Trading Address: Anglers Court, Meadow, Sucks, RH7 1DR
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the Creditors of the above named Companies will be held at 72 London Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1NS on 6 April 1998 at 10.30am and on 8 April 1998 respectively for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99-101 of the said Act.
Notice is further given that Mr Maurice Jay Godfrey-Faussett FCA Peter John Godfrey-Faussett FCA MSPT of Moore Moore & Hale, Gloucester House, 72 London Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1NS is a person qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the Companies and during the period before the day of the meeting is to be available to Companies' creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Companies' affairs as they may reasonably require, pursuant to Section 99(3)(b) of the said Act.
Notice is also given that for the purpose of voting secured creditors (other than secured creditors claiming to be secured by floating charges) must send their claims to the said Registered Office of the Companies before the meeting a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.
By Order of the Board of Directors
JOHN BARRY WHITE, Director
Dated this 24 March 1998

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
CHARITY: CHARITY FOR A SANATORIUM ADMINISTERED IN CONNECTION WITH ETON COLLEGE (309092)
REFERENCE: KF309092-99726/CC(T)
The Charity Commission proposes to make a Scheme to amend the trusts of this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at The Estate Office, Eton College or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, TAUNTON, Somerset, TA1 4BL, quoting the above reference. Comments or representations may be made within one month from today.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
PETCHETT CONTRACTORS (LONDON) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above-named company, which is being wound up voluntarily, are required, on or before the 15th day of May 1998 to send in their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator (or any of the solicitors (if any) to Colin George Wheeler, Moore Stephens Booth Wheeler, 30 Old Bailey, London EC4A 3BN, the Joint Liquidator of the company), and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator (or any of the solicitors (if any) to Colin George Wheeler), are by their solicitors (if so required) to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 25th day of March 1998
Colin G Wheeler
Joint Liquidator

BC Partners Limited (Registered in England No 3020410)
Proposed payment out of capital pursuant to Section 171 of the Companies Act 1985
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 175 of the Companies Act 1985 ("the Act") that:
(a) BC Partners Limited (the Company) has by a Special Resolution passed on 26 March 1998 approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of repurchase by redemption of 6,000,000 redeemable ordinary shares of £1 each in its own share capital;
(b) the permissible capital payment (as defined in Section 171 of the Act) for such shares is £6,000,000;
(c) the statutory declaration of the Company's directors and the report of the Company's auditors required by Section 173 of the Act in respect of such payment out of capital are available for inspection by any member or creditor of the Company at the Company's registered office at 105 Piccadilly, London W1V 9FN during business hours on any day (except a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) up to and including 30 April 1998; and
(d) any creditor of the Company may, at any time up to and including 30 April 1998, apply to the High Court of Justice under Section 176 of the Act for an order prohibiting such payment out of capital.
Date: 26 March 1998
Michael Tschabrun
Registered Office:
105 Piccadilly
London W1V 9FN

LEGAL NOTICES

1997 OS No 622
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
BETWEEN:
(1) ROBERT ALAN HESLETT
(2) MARTIN ROGER PARR
Plaintiffs
and
(1) CHUNG WAI MAN
(2) DOREEN CURRITORS
Defendants
NOTICE
TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Leeds District Registry, 1997 OS No. 622, by Robert Alan Heslett and Martin Roger Parr of 7 Park Square East, Leeds in which the Plaintiffs claim in rem:-
1. An Order that the property described in the schedule hereto, being property subject to a Charging Order Absolute in favour of the Plaintiffs dated 17 day of April 1997 and made in an action in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Leeds District Registry under reference "1994-R-371 Robert Alan Heslett and Martin Roger Parr -v- Percy Authers, Accrington Owners Assn & Others" (the "Nationwide Building Society" may be sold under the direction of the Court and that the money in Court by such sale (after deduction of the reasonable costs of such sale) may be lodged in Court to the credit of the above action subject to further Order.
2. An Order that upon such sale the said Defendants Percy Authers and Accrington Owners Assn and each of them to pay all arrears of mortgage payments for the benefit of the said property and the premises thereof.
3. Further or alternatively, an Order that a District Judge of this Court be appointed to convey the said property or the Defendants' interest therein.
4. Possession of the said property.
5. Such further or other Order as the Court may think necessary or consequential upon the aforesaid.
6. An Order that the costs of this application and of effecting such sale as aforesaid be paid by the said Defendants and added to the debt secured by the aforesaid Charging Order.
This application is made inter alia under Sections 41, 44, 47 and 50 of the Trustee Act 1925.
SCHEDULE
The freehold land and property known as and situate at 108 Stanhope Road, London SE12 9QW which is registered at H M Land Registry under Title No SGL 387911 in the name of the First Defendant with title absolute.
AND THAT it has been ordered that service on you of the Originating Summons, A copy of the Affidavit in support may be obtained from the solicitors whose name and address appear below.
AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you must within 14 days of the publication of this advertisement, inclusive of the day of such publication acknowledge service of the said Originating Summons by completing a prescribed form of acknowledgement of service which may be obtained from the solicitors whose name and address appear below, otherwise the order may be made.
Dated this 31st day of March 1998
Ambrosoughs Willey Hargreave of 7 Park Square East, Leeds LS1 2LW.
Solicitors for the Plaintiffs.

1997 OS No 621
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
BETWEEN:
(1) ROBERT ALAN HESLETT
(2) MARTIN ROGER PARR
Plaintiffs
and
(1) PERCY AUTHERS
(2) GEORGINA OWUSU ANSAH
Defendants
NOTICE
TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Leeds District Registry, 1997 OS No. 621, by Robert Alan Heslett and Martin Roger Parr of 7 Park Square East, Leeds in which the Plaintiffs claim in rem:-
1. An Order that the property described in the schedule hereto, being property subject to a Charging Order Absolute in favour of the Plaintiffs dated 17 day of April 1997 and made in an action in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Leeds District Registry under reference "1994-R-371 Robert Alan Heslett and Martin Roger Parr -v- Percy Authers, Accrington Owners Assn & Others" (the "Nationwide Building Society" may be sold under the direction of the Court and that the money in Court by such sale (after deduction of the reasonable costs of such sale) may be lodged in Court to the credit of the above action subject to further Order.
2. An Order that upon such sale the said Defendants Percy Authers and Georgina Owusu Ansah and each of them to pay all arrears of mortgage payments for the benefit of the said property and the premises thereof.
3. Further or alternatively, an Order that a District Judge of this Court be appointed to convey the said property or the Defendants' interest therein.
4. Possession of the said property.
5. Such further or other Order as the Court may think necessary or consequential upon the aforesaid.
6. An Order that the costs of this application and of effecting such sale as aforesaid be paid by the Defendants and added to the debt secured by the aforesaid Charging Order.
This application is made inter alia under Sections 41, 44, 47 and 50 of the Trustee Act 1925.
SCHEDULE
The Leasehold land and property known as and situate at Flat 2, 76 Florence Road, Gosport PO1 5EL which is registered at H M Land Registry under Title No HAL 9924 in the name of the First Defendant.
AND THAT it has been ordered that service on you of the Originating Summons, A copy of the Affidavit in support may be obtained from the solicitors whose name and address appear below.
AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you must within 14 days of the publication of this advertisement, inclusive of the day of such publication acknowledge service of the said Originating Summons by completing a prescribed form of acknowledgement of service which may be obtained from the solicitors whose name and address appear below, otherwise the order may be made.
Dated this 31st day of March 1998
Ambrosoughs Willey Hargreave of 7 Park Square East, Leeds LS1 2LW.
Solicitors for the Plaintiffs.

LEGAL NOTICES ALSO APPEAR ON PAGE 28

VISIT OF "RED" LEADERS.

A SUBTLE MANOEUVRE

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Russian trade union leaders have not lost any time in acting upon the invitation of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress to attend a meeting "to discuss ways and means of removing the difficulties in the way of the affiliation of the Russian trade union movement to the Amsterdam International." They will be gratified because they have been invited to journey to London. They had feared that visas would be refused and that they would have to be satisfied with a meeting in Berlin. The day fixed for the meeting is next Monday, but the Russian delegation is already on the way and is expected to arrive to-morrow or on Thursday.

The Council of the Amsterdam International (having unwillingly reopened the question last February at the request of the British representatives) decided that the Russian unions, as a condition precedent to negotiations, must apply for affiliation to the Amsterdam organization — a step which would logically involve their severance from the Red International, of which they are the mainstay. There is a fundamental divergence of principle between Moscow and Amsterdam which the representatives of British trade unionism are almost alone in refusing to recognize. As an act of sheer self-preservation, the Amsterdam International required of the Russian unions the preliminary acceptance of its constitution before representatives of the two parties talk.

Foiled in its frontal attack, the Moscow organization is endeavouring to bring about disruption through the agency of the friends of "the international united front" in the British trade union movement. The Russian delegation sent to the Trades Union Congress at Hull last year, the return visit of the British delegation to Russia, and the plan of an Anglo-Russian committee to promote unity were all part of one design. The proposal for a conference "without conditions" which the British members of the Amsterdam council put forward last month, was also favourable to the Russian purpose. So is the meeting to be held in London next week.

The seeds of dissension at Amsterdam are being sown very subtly, and a favourable atmosphere for further disruptive propaganda is supposed to have been created by the report of the British delegation to Russia. But in this coquetting with Communists British trade unionists are creating difficulties not only at Amsterdam, but also at home. The political leaders of Labour have frequently, but fruitlessly, reminded them of the risks they run.

PRESENT FROM MOSCOW.

RIGA, March 30.

Tomsky, the chairman of the All-Russian Trades Union Council, who is on his way to London at the head of a delegation from the Council, is conveying a present from Moscow to Mr. Purcell in the form of a document making him an honorary member of the Moscow Soviet.

ON THIS DAY

March 31, 1925

Russian trade union leaders responded very swiftly to friendly overtures from the General Council of the Trades Union Congress.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Young, gifted but destined for a life of crime

Tony Dawe reports on a new campaign by The Children's Society to develop innovative ways to find and protect the army of vulnerable boys and girls adrift in Britain

The charity which specialises in helping troubled youngsters at home rather than abroad launches a fresh campaign today aimed at expanding its work nationwide to free thousands more trapped in a web of misery.

The Children's Society intends to become a "force for change" by developing a series of innovative national programmes to aid youngsters in trouble with their parents, the law and their schools.

It is seeking £12 million over the next three years to help to achieve its target and is also to change its logo, replacing three static childlike figures with a more exciting image reflecting its aim to assist children "to reach out for a better future".

The new strategy is being launched in the face of alarming figures which show that Britain locks up more youngsters than any other European country and that children in England and Wales are missing half a million schooldays every year because they have been temporarily suspended.

Ian Sparks, The Children's Society chief executive, says: "One of the great tragedies in the UK today is the wasted talent and lives of tens of thousands of our young people. Born into desperately disadvantaged families, excluded from school, sleeping rough at 14 because they have run away from home or care, their route to a life of crime or drugs is frighteningly short.

"I believe that charities like ours have a vital role to play in pioneering new solutions to problems and pushing for change from an independent base."

The society intends to expand programmes which have started at local levels into national ones and then evaluate them to see if they are providing new solutions.

Shuna Kennedy, the society's marketing director, says: "We know from our work at local level that these projects are making a difference. We want to be as effective as possible in dealing with the problems and bring together our work at a national level."

Mr Sparks adds: "Whatever the problem affecting young people which you read about in your papers, we are going out and doing something about it. We talk to our supporters, to the public and to the young people themselves to find out what they are concerned about.

"With our ears to the ground, we can gather good intelligence and discover what is coming up next and then try to respond to it. We are seeking made-to-measure solutions instead of using ready-made ones."

The new focus of Children's Society work covers four problem areas, beginning with a child's "right to education". The society is determined to reduce the number of suspensions — or exclusions, as the education authorities now call them — by finding alternative ways of helping disruptive children.

It wants to expand a pilot scheme in two South London schools to show that the approach it is using can work in rural as well as urban areas and in different regions. "For these young people, there are numerous points in their lives when someone could intervene and help them. But nobody does and, for some, exclusions can eventually lead to prison," Mr Sparks says.

The "safe on the streets" programme, which provides refuges for the most vulnerable of the 43,000 children who run away from home or care each year, is one of the society's most developed schemes but still covers only a handful of big cities.

The new strategy will expand the programme but also seek alternatives and concentrate on trying to help youngsters before they finally desert their families.

"We are looking at hotlines for teachers to ring if they are worried about pupils and at trying to persuade the police to contact us more regularly," says Mr Sparks.

"On some occasions, it can be the tenth time a child has run away from home when we finally get to speak to him or her."

The society's youth justice programme will also seek alternatives to the problem of 15 and 16-year-olds on remand being held in prison. The possibilities include remanding them to the care of their families if the circumstances are right; remanding them to foster carers or placing them in secure local authority care.

Mr Sparks adds: "If they are on drugs, they need rehabilitation. If they have no jobs, we must try and get them on a training course. They are not going to be sorted out if they go to prison. Young people in the prison system come out as better criminals.

"We also want to evaluate this approach and see if these alternatives do take youngsters away from a life of crime. We hope we can prove we are doing a better job by not locking them up."

The fourth part of the society's new focus involves encouraging children to play a part in improving their own communities. "We talk to them about what needs doing: improving the local park, street lighting, cleaning up vandalism," says Mr Sparks. "It is an eye-opener to see how seriously young people will take these issues if given an opportunity.

"The purpose of all our work is to impress on young people that they can make something of their lives. When we talk to them, we often find their aspirations are simple: to get back to school; to get a job and get married. It can be heartbreaking to hear them say it."

Mr Sparks is convinced that the financial independence of The Children's Society makes it easier to launch new initiatives. He is suspicious of those charities which have become an arm of government and proudly points out that nearly three quarters of the society's £26 million annual income comes from its supporters. That level of income compares, for example, with £84 million for Barnardo's and £46 million for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

"When we opened our first refuge in London," he recalls, "it was still illegal to harbour runaway children, but we were prepared to take that risk. It paid off and the society was instrumental in the change of legislation that followed.

"When we discovered the problem of child prostitution while working with youngsters on the streets, we challenged the authorities to start protecting them instead of prosecuting them.

"Our independence gives us the freedom to do new things and to take a lead role and that is what we hope to do more effectively than ever with our new strategy."

The Children's Society



'Their route to a life of crime or drugs is frighteningly short'

IAN SPARKS

PHIL HOUGHTON



Andrea Traylor, holding her son Jacob, with Andrew Crees, a builder, and Rosie Edwards, at the grass-roofed childcare centre

Andrea's childcare solution

Peter Brown reports on a young mother who campaigned for a nursery to be built and gained a career

When Andrea Traylor moved across Kent from Canterbury to Broadstairs, her son Jacob was four weeks old. Andrea was 17, but the dilemma she faced was common to women much older than herself: she was unqualified. To undertake any training, she would need childcare, which she could not afford.

Three and a half years later, Ms Traylor is not only trained to work in a junior nursery but is about to start her career in a £150,000 purpose-built childcare centre which she helped to design.

With its blue timber walls and grass roof, it sits oddly but proudly amid the brick and glass of Thanet College, a tribute to the perseverance and hard work of Ms Traylor's group of parents, and to the organisational skills of The Children's Society.

Broadstairs was once a popular seaside resort, with a grand seafront. Some hotels remain, but the whole Thanet area, including Margate and Ramsgate, is not what it was. Marbella lured its tourists; Volkswagen moved to Milton Keynes; the East Kent coalfield closed.

Isolated and shorn of big employers, Thanet, with its slow road and rail links to London, has a problem. One in five of the population is either unemployed or on benefit. Even the low-wage jobs demand qualifications.

"I've got a partner and he works full-time," Ms Traylor says. "Even so, I couldn't afford to go back to college and have the children looked after, what with the cost of doing a course. Other women I knew were in the same position."

It was against this background that Rosie Edwards, from The Children's Society, asked the local mothers she was working with — many of them separated or single parents — what would help them most. The answer was good, affordable childcare.

"We thought that if we could develop childcare where you didn't have to pay if you were on benefits or low income, we might break the cycle," she says.

"We had to find out how you could make a scheme like that financially viable, so we looked at wage levels, benefit levels and childcare costs."

'I didn't want it thought that everyone here is on benefit'

A complex piece of research took place. Thanet College, they found, could attract financial support from the Further Education Funding Council if it had students training for further education courses. The college could also offer a site for a care centre. A partnership was formed between the parents, the college and the society. Committees were formed, and sub-committees. The Thanet Childcare and Training Scheme was up and running.

"Some people plainly didn't believe that the families we were working with could do it," Ms Edwards says. She herself had faith, and The Children's Society was prepared to shoulder the management risk. As one mother put it: "I didn't want my children thinking that everyone in Thanet lives on benefit and that there isn't another way to live."

The next step was a business plan. "With Labour's New Deal coming in, we thought we could accrue income," Ms Edwards says. "The Thanet Regeneration Partnership supported us and introduced us to Business in the Community. John Laing the building company has given us financial support and a lot of other help. Money began coming in, from Shell, the Royal Mail and others."

The big breakthrough was £50,000 from Brussels, plus £20,500 from Britain's single regeneration budget challenge fund. The college put in £11,000. Kent Training and Enterprise Council added £15,000.

The architect was Simon Yauner of Green Architecture, based in North London. "He must have saved the scheme about £12,000 in material costs by persuading suppliers to give items at cost or free," Ms Edwards says.The parents were involved at all stages of the design, as were college staff and, indeed, the children. "We wanted it to be child-friendly, with low-level windows and a garden," says Ms Traylor, who chairs the scheme's publicity committee. The ecologically correct grass roof provides good insulation with low maintenance, and the building can be easily extended, or moved.

The centre was largely built by a team of youngsters doing NVQ courses at the college, giving them vital work experience. "It was hard," says Andrew Crees, aged 18. "The timber was heavy and the angles were tricky, especially as we'd never done anything on a large scale before. The architect inspected every two weeks."

The main room has sliding doors, with carpet one side, lino the other. There are four other rooms, a kitchen and toilets. Recycled materials have been used where possible. "Now we're trying to get the equipment sorted out," Ms Edwards says. "There are a lot of things we still need: paint, nappy changing tables, cushion bumpers, climbing frames."

Somehow, money was found for Ms Traylor's BTec in childcare and education, and to train other parents to work in the centre, which will open after Easter. It will house up to 30 children aged from three to 11, operating during and after school hours and through school holidays. A Children's Society development worker will manage it.

After that, the indomitable Ms Edwards hopes to build or convert similar centres in other parts of Thanet.

How two waifs and strays inspired a century of charity

A Sunday school teacher's concern for two absent pupils led to the founding of the society. **Tony Dawe** reports

MARY EVANS



A policeman on night patrol in Newport Market, London, in 1867

Like so many charities which now raise millions of pounds and have become household names, The Children's Society was started humbly by one man with a single vision and an initial desire to help two impoverished boys.

Today, as the charity launches a new strategy to help as many thousands of disadvantaged youngsters as possible, it remains loyal to the ideals of Edward Rudolf, its founder, and the organisation he called the Waifs and Strays Society. It also continues to relish challenging authority, just as Rudolf did 117 years ago.

A Church of England Sunday school teacher, he had become concerned at the fate of the two boys when they failed to turn up for lessons after attending regularly. He eventually learnt that they had been seen destitute and begging for food because their mother could not cope after their father had died.

Determined to avoid the workhouse, she had tried unsuccessfully to find a place for the older boys in a church orphanage but she was unable to pay for their lodgings.

Rudolf challenged the church to support his plans to help these destitute children and, with the backing of the Archbishop of Canterbury, set up the first Church of England central home for waifs and strays.

His vision was to provide the children with a home in a family environment in an age when so many other children's homes were barrack-like workhouses.

The first home was in Dulwich, South London, and by 1919 there were 113 homes throughout England and Wales, although wherever possible, Rudolf found the children foster homes with carefully selected families.

The society today launches a new strategy for the future

The majority of those taken into the society's care in the first 30 years of the century were the children of single parents, who had been unable to cope financially after the death of a husband or wife or because they were separated from their partner.

By the early 1930s, the society had introduced a scheme to offer families in crisis a grant to enable them to stay together and care for their children.

Older children in the homes were given the chance to learn a trade including printing and agriculture.

During the Second World War, the society opened war nurseries as temporary homes for children who had been evacuated or made homeless by bombing.

Never afraid to pioneer new and controversial solutions, the charity developed in the early 1970s some of the first family centres in inner-city areas to keep families together and prevent children having to be taken into care.

The society opened Britain's first refuge for child runaways and lobbied for The Children's Bill to legalise safe houses for them.

It was the first to highlight the problem of children caught up in prostitution and recently incensed the burghers of Bournemouth with a poster campaign proclaiming: "Why travel 6,000 miles to have sex with children when you can do the same thing in Bournemouth?"

Accompanying today's launch of a bold new strategy for the 21st century is a new logo showing a figure reaching for a shooting star. The image also features 13 other stars, a reminder of an early donation to the charity back in 1881: 13 penny black stamps.



Then and now: the society was founded as the Waifs and Strays Society in 1881 by Edward Rudolf

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY Sponsored section

Runaways on Britain's mean streets

Linda Pullen speaks to young people in Leeds who have found a place of refuge at last after years of physical or sexual abuse in their own homes

In Leeds, the self-styled "city that never sleeps", one in seven children is, or has been, a runaway. Most big cities have similar problems. Nationally an estimated 43,000 children run away every year, although no one collates accurate figures.

But Leeds is one of just four places in Britain where children can find a roof over their heads and people prepared to listen to their problems. The refuge, along with another in Bournemouth and one in Newport, South Wales, is run by The Children's Society. The NSPCC operates a fourth, in London.

The location of the large four-storey refuge in Leeds is a closely guarded secret. Even some senior officials in the society are unaware of its address — just one police officer in the West Yorkshire force knows where it is and would never turn up on the doorstep.

If police need to speak to a child, the officer telephones the house and a member of staff arranges a meeting on neutral ground. I interviewed Dave Roberts, the project leader, and some young people at a church centre rented for the occasion. When I asked for details about the refuge, I was given just a brief description. "We don't divulge it to anyone," a society spokesman said. "It's about building up trust. It's their safe haven, their breathing space."

> 'They were always there for me, and listened to me'

Since it opened in 1991, calls for help have doubled to more than 1,000, and the number of children given shelter has risen from 110 to 207. Their average age is 13 — and falling. It has already helped one eight-year-old and five ten-year-olds. Just six children can stay for up to 14 days at any one time. Most come for four or five.

The house provides a refuge for children who have "lost trust in the adult world", says Dave Roberts. "They don't want to talk to the police. They think social services are like the police.

"Some return home or go to friends, but the reality is they run away from a situation which they can no longer cope with and chose the streets as the better option."

The society strives to centre its work on the child: "We want the young person's voice to be heard," he says. "All of our work is driven by the young person's wishes."

The child makes the initial contact on a freephone number circulated through schools, agencies such as the police, social services, or the Samaritans, or among other runaways. Staff on a round-the-clock rota arrange to meet at a place chosen by the child to discuss his or her problems.

If they have nowhere to go, if they are at risk, if there is room, and only if they want to, they are taken to the house. If there is no room, no one else to turn to and a reluctance to be put in touch with other agencies, they stay on the streets.

In the first 24 hours, staff have, by law, to contact police with the child's name, date of birth and where they come from. Police must contact parents or carers, tell them the youngster is with the society and give a contact number.

Staff try to find out whether their problem can be resolved. Mr Roberts says: "We don't tell them what we think they should do. We try to listen to what they are saying."

Four out of every ten children who called the house last year had run away because of physical violence. Almost a quarter were sexually abused and a similar number had problems at school. More than three quarters had run away from home or been thrown out; 11 per cent had fled from care and five per cent from foster parents.

In 1997, 59 per cent of runaways helped by the refuge returned to their parents while 26 per cent went to other families. But some choose to return to the streets. "There is very little we can do about that," Mr Roberts says. "They are vulnerable to crime, drugs, or prostitution. It's difficult to understand, but prostitution gives them a sense of belonging they have never had."

It is estimated that around 10,000 children run away more than ten times. "The danger is that they become detached and end up in situations like the Fred West case, where no one knows they are missing," Mr Roberts says.

Rachel, 18, one of the children they helped, had already tried to kill herself by the time she was 13, believing it was the only escape from years of sexual abuse and beatings from her stepfather. Even after her overdose she was sent home where she would be "safe." Later she was taken into care and ran away 26 times. She slept rough, surviving on stolen sandwiches and pop.

She found support at the safe house. "They were always there for me and they listened and it's like they cared about me," she says. "That really made a difference because sometimes it felt like I was just by myself and nobody cared whether I was alive or dead."

Paul's father would not let him home after he spent nine years in care. At 16, he found a bedsit, but could not cope on his own. His last children's home put him in touch with the society. "They took me in. It was a place of safety for me. They helped me to do things like cook and clean. They gave me my foundation."

He was frequently involved in crime. "I was arrested once at the safe house but they had me back. I thought they would wash their hands of me, but they stood by me."

Now 23, he has a flat in Leeds and is looking for work. He keeps in touch with the safe house. "I've always been able to pick up the telephone and chat to somebody there. Without them I would still be moving from here to there and everywhere."

The society wants the Government to fund a network of refuges. "When everything else has failed and there is nothing left, we can react quickly and set up something," Mr Roberts says. "This works. Copy us."

ROSS PARRY



Learning to trust: Dave Roberts, project leader of the Leeds safe house, meets a former resident

Iola Smith on the success of a project in Newport which keeps youngsters who are on remand out of prison by placing them with trained carers

According to the Home Office, more than 2,000 15 and 16-year-olds were remanded in custody in England and Wales during 1996. The Children's Society has long campaigned against this practice, regarding it as an ineffective means of preventing crime.

"Britain locks up more teenagers than almost any other country in Europe, despite the fact that we know prisons are no more than colleges of crime for most young people," says Ian Sparks, the society's chief executive.

"Conditions for remand prisoners are often worse than for those who have been sentenced. They are in cells for 23 hours a day, denied access to education and plagued by uncertainty. Half of the young people do not receive prison sentences when they eventually come to court.

"We want to see this Government make good the commitments of successive Home Secretaries to get these young teenagers out of prison once and for all."

To provide the Government and the courts with an alternative solution, The Children's Society established a community remand project in Newport three years ago. Funded by the society, together with Newport social services and Gwent probation service, the initiative encourages the courts to place 12 to 17-year-olds charged with criminal offences in the homes of specially trained foster carers.

> 'Of the 40 we have helped, 28 have not reoffended'

Being a carer is challenging and can be risky. But according to the Newport project leader, Chris Dunstall, it can also be rewarding. "Carers can see young people who appeared beyond help steadily take responsibility and put their lives back in order," he says.

Susan, one of four carers currently taking in young offenders, agrees. "There can be problems and I have had things disappear, but the youngsters know they won't get away with it. They realise this is their last chance. If they blow it, they're in prison. So it's satisfying when their attitudes change. Three of the eight who have been placed with me are now working. They have taken advantage of what the project can offer and are sorting out their lives."

Susan became a carer because she felt she understood what the youngsters were going through. "At 14 or 15 I could have gone in the wrong direction." Getting a job saved her.

Work offers the same hope to 17-year-old young offender Steve, who had been in trouble since he was seven and was remanded to Cardiff prison on a burglary charge. "I wanted money in my pocket," he says. "If I had been working, I wouldn't have done it."

While in prison, Steve joined the Newport project and moved in with a foster family. Subsequently sentenced to a two-year supervision order, he has decided to go to college and obtain a welding qualification.

"An NVQ will give me a chance of doing something with my life. If I ever went back to prison, things would be all messed up."

Steve, in common with many young offenders, has a history of school failure. Truancy, suspension and expulsion are experienced by many in this group, as are deprived family backgrounds and addiction to drugs or alcohol.

Susan's charge, 16-year-old John, from Newport, fits this bill and has the added complication of a family in which the main career choice is crime. He is charged with a catalogue of alleged offences, from assault and robbery to shoplifting. But seven weeks into the project, he is adamant: "I don't want to go to prison. Crime doesn't pay. You just end up inside."

Susan has to monitor his court-imposed curfew, and the project ensures he receives alcohol counselling, as he has a drink problem. Drug counselling is also available to teenagers in need, all part of the project's attempts to prevent them reoffending.

In drugs-related cases, it is often advisable to place teenagers away from their local communities. "One of our youngsters stole from family, friends and neighbours to obtain money for drugs," says Mr Dunstall. "We placed him in rural Monmouthshire, away from his neighbourhood, and he learnt to live without drugs."

Much of the project's success is due to the commitment of carers. Receiving an allowance of up to £180 a week, they are trained to defuse tricky situations. The youngsters are taught that they must obey house rules such as no violence, no bad language and no drugs.

Carers and teenagers are carefully matched. No one with a history of bullying would be placed with Susan, for example, because she has a young son.

"The first two days of a placement are crucial to building up a relationship," says Mr Dunstall. "The youngster is never left alone at that time. He is either with his carer or with us. We start counselling immediately, so he gains the strength to resist peer pressure that could lead him back to crime. And we take him to a jobcentre so he can apply for a job or training place. Having something to occupy his time is vital."

Gradually the youngster is encouraged to assume more responsibility, and learns skills such as cooking, operating a washing machine and managing money. A 24-hour helpline is available whenever youngsters or carers need assistance, and the project's staff provide support and help for carers.

Mr Dunstall insists that the project is not a soft option. "The youngsters have to confront their offending behaviour. That can be tough. We believe this project can help to turn teenagers away from crime. Of the 40 who have been with us, 28 have not reoffended. Five have been rearrested and two convicted — but that is a far lower proportion than if they had been in prison."

Brushing away anger at a stroke

Problem children are taking a shine to a new therapy, says **Tony Dawe**

Jordan was one of those pupils teachers dread. He had no interest in classwork and preferred to wander aimlessly around the school. He was prone to violent tantrums which could end with his destroying books and toys, kicking other children or even attacking his teachers.

By the time he was nine, he was at his third junior school, had attended a child guidance clinic, had visited psychologists and had been listed as a special needs case. His mother, Audrey, was at the end of her tether.

"Whenever I went to the school, Jordan's name was on everybody's lips," she said. "Even the children would come and tell me what he had been up to. He would behave just as badly at home and trash his room and even hurt himself in his anger."

Then Audrey learnt that the school was one of two in South London taking part in the Shine project, an initiative by The Children's Society to help disruptive children in schools and to save them from suspension and all the problems that can bring.

"I met Gill Young, the project worker at the school, and talked about her working with Jordan," says Audrey. "At the time, I was having a two-way conversation in my head: part of me was thinking this is just another scheme which will get nowhere, but I also had a feeling that it might just work.

"Within two months, I noticed a change. Jordan was able to handle problems without throwing a tantrum. He started talking to me about things and was no longer abusive or destructive. It was like a godsend.

> 'It's a godsend. He changed in two months'

"After a few more weeks, he told me he didn't need to see Gill any more. Now he's fine. He still has a temper but knows how to control it. And when I go to his school, there are no more complaints."

Gill Young used counselling, nursery development techniques and play therapy in her work with Jordan. For an hour a week, he left the class to join her in a separate room where they would talk, read, play, paint pictures, make models, do whatever the child wanted. Encouraged to express themselves or invent their own games, children will often act out the problems which might be affecting them at home or at school.

After a few weeks, Jordan began visiting Gill in a group, which made him feel less isolated and helped him to become more confident and adjusted.

"Gill's presence has been very valuable and her enthusiasm and care have been brilliant," says Eunice Johnson, a teacher at Jordan's school.

"As teachers, we are trying to get the children to work and learn. We might know they have difficulties but we don't have time to talk to them at that level, whereas the project worker can let them talk without demands or expectations."



Pippa Bremner with children's paintings

The need for projects such as Shine is emphasised by the survey published today by The Children's Society which estimates the total number of schooldays lost by children in England and Wales every year at more than two million, the majority because of permanent exclusions. The numbers are rising fastest in primary schools.

"Our aim is to prevent exclusions by targeting primary schoolchildren," says Pippa Bremner, Shine project leader. "Catching them early will give us the best chance of supporting them and changing their behaviour.

"We have developed a creative and innovative way of working with parents, teachers and children to resolve what is in danger of becoming a crisis in schools.

"In our experience, everyone benefits. Teachers benefit from the absence of difficult pupils; the pupils benefit from special treatment and then work better in class and the parents get help through a difficult stage and end up feeling more positive towards the school."



Ryan's mum was in an accident. Ryan carries the scars.

Last year, when Ryan was 12, his mum was knocked down by a hit-and-run. When she came out of hospital, she was too poorly to look after Ryan, or his little brother. Ryan had to take care of them both.
The demands took their toll. Ryan fell behind with his homework. When his little brother was teased at school, he took revenge with his fists. He ended up being excluded. He doesn't know what he'll do next. Boys like Ryan often turn to crime.

The Children's Society is now helping Ryan. He's just one of the thousands of children we help every year.

If you believe every child deserves a decent chance in life, you believe in everything we stand for.

If you would like to know more, or make a donation, call our 24 hour donation line:
0345 32 10 28
http://www.the-childrens-society.org.uk

The Children's Society
A Voluntary Society of The Church of England and The Church in Wales
Charity Registration No. 221124
2621/cd

Time to transfer before valuations change

The story so far . . .

I've got that end-of-season feeling. I'm not a serious contender for the main or FA Cup leagues, and there's no relegation, so what is there to play for?
Quite a lot, if you ask me. For a start, how many transfers have you got left?
Almost none in my league side, but about half-a-dozen in the cup team. Well, I call it my cup team, but almost all of the players are from teams long out of the cups.
You mean that you didn't take my advice last week about buying in Scottish forwards?
Er, I'm afraid not.
Don't worry; for what I have in mind, transfers in hand could be more valuable.
What exactly *do* you have in mind?
Nothing less than an all-out assault on the monthly prize for April. A thousand big ones, you know.
But everyone else in the competition is aiming for the same prize, aren't they?
True enough, but not everybody has many transfers in hand. Teams near the top of the leagues are bound to be short of transfers, which leaves you in with a chance of doing better than them over the month.
Well, it's worth thinking about. Actually, it's a very important month.
It certainly is. There are two full programmes over the Easter weekend, and it's generally regarded as the make-or-break time for a lot of clubs' seasons. Relegation can be seen off, a place in Europe can come into view . . .
Who do you suggest I transfer in, then?
Well, if you'll take my advice, which you haven't done very often recently, players from Tottenham and the Scottish big three.
OK, I can see the Scottish clubs, because they're racing for the Championship and all still in the cup, but *Tottenham?*
I think so. Unlike Everton and Newcastle, they are beginning to play well and score goals. Armstrong's fit again, Klinsmann got one on Saturday . . .
Barnsley forwards too, perhaps? They always seem capable of scoring goals, even if their defenders can still give them away as well as anyone.
I like your thinking. But always keep your eye on the *fixture list*: that can save you a few transfers.
Of course, I suppose I could always enter another team just for this month. Then I'd get a full set of transfers.
Absolutely.
Okay, that's what I'll do then. The money's as good as in the bank.
April Fool's Day isn't until tomorrow, you know.

Player prices may go up or down tonight; March winners out next week

The final player revaluation of the 1997-98 ITF season takes place at midnight tonight. A list of the players whose valuations have changed will be printed in tomorrow's *Times*.

As before, entrants whose selection includes players with increased valuations will have the total value of their team increased, so that they may make transfers which reflect the new overall value of their squad. Conversely, your squad's total value may decrease if your players are revalued down, and your transfer budget will be capped accordingly.

Inevitably, the players whose valuations will change are likely to be those in teams which have exceeded or failed to live up to expectations, although individual performers who have run into form at the crucial point of the season will probably be represented.

Now, therefore, could be the time to make transfers if you feel that a player you want will be out of your price range by midnight tonight or that one of your squad will have fallen in price by this time tomorrow. However, given that revaluations necessarily reflect the performances of players and teams over the past two months, you may feel that a recently struggling club has turned the corner, and that their players will perform better than likely revaluations would suggest, or that it is worth waiting to unload players from currently in-form teams whose moment is on the point of passing.

■ IT IS not given to many outside the PFA league to pick themselves in their own ITF team, but P. Sturrock of Redhill, Surrey, was able to choose P. Sturrock (of St Johnstone) as manager of his side. PFMS Force XI, this week's highest climber.

Fantasy manager Peter Sturrock, who grew up in Dundee, is not, however, related to real-life manager Paul, the former Scotland international.

■ WINNERS of the ITF monthly prizes for March will be announced on these pages next week. The best performers in the main and Internet leagues receive £1,000 in addition to the sports equipment and premier league match tickets which go to monthly winners of the Youth, Students' and Women's leagues.

■ ITF helpline: 01582 702720.

HOW IS YOUR TEAM DOING?
Telephone
0891 884 643
50p a minute, using a Touch-tone telephone. Public calls cost twice as much


ALLSPORT

Chris Armstrong: as his team's form appears to be on the up, it may be worth transferring Tottenham players in

FAXBACK: YOUR UP-TO-DATE TEAM SCORES

The Times Faxback service provides you with a complete results sheet of your team, showing current and total scores, dates, times and details of transfers, as well as your position in the ITF league and, if appropriate, your mini-league (women's, students', youth). Scores and transfer confirmations are updated by 12 noon on the day following a match or matches.

Make sure you have your ten-digit PIN number ready when you call. To obtain an ITF team faxback, simply pick up the handset of the fax machine and dial the telephone number below. If your fax does not have a handset, attach a handset or press the on-hook or telephone button instead and dial the number below. Listen carefully to the instructions and press the appropriate buttons when asked. Calls cost £1 per minute and are available in the UK only.

The number to call for your faxback is:
0991 111 333

If you have any problems operating this service, call the Faxback Helpline on 0171-412 3795. This service is provided by Telecom Express, Westminster Tower, London SE1 7SP.

LEAGUE UPDATES

ITF LEAGUE
£50,000 top prize
£1,000 monthly prize

PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE
Professionals choose their fantasy team

Mitre
STUDENTS' LEAGUE
Monthly prize of premiership tickets, signed football and sports bag

DAIRY CREST
YOUTH LEAGUE
Monthly prize of premiership tickets, signed football and sports bag

WOMEN'S LEAGUE
Monthly prize of premiership tickets, signed football and sports bag

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

1	S Whitfield	Snail Busters	970
2	J Gardner	15 Chumbawumbas	957
3	*C Purdy*	*Kate's Cosmos*	946
4	A Finch	Annette's Angels	927
4	A Hembrow	The Brecontans 1	927
6	B Fletcher	Ab Fab	922
7	J Pepper	Pepper Pots	898
8	C Cheshire	Cheshire's Cats	892
9	Adach	Fantasy Wolves 11	891
10	*M Portwood*	*Women Can Play 2*	890
11	C Ruiz-Guimaraes	Cafeteria Aries	889
12	C Purdy	*Kate's Upstarts*	888
13	S Brooks	Sandra's Specials	885
14	M Hussain	Good Luck Malika	879
15	M Nicol	Pipthecat	877
16	J Woolner	Janes FC One	873
16	*L Emery*	*Buggsy's Boys*	873
18	S Allport	Farmoor Pinks	868
19	*T Saul*	*No Slip Ups*	857
20	P Johnston	XII Superstars	848

STUDENTS' LEAGUE

1	N Wheatley	H D G Is A Sad Waster	1035
2	T Gardner	6 Chumbawumbas	1005
3	N Wheatley	Witheridge is ill	988
4	J Gardner	15 Chumbawumbas	957
5	E Carmichael	Jedi Masters	912
6	Steven Shipley	Set Against	896
7	G Wilson	*Dog Soldiers*	892
8	M Slade	Fantasia One	882
9	*F Ferguson*	*Saucy Sue Barker*	849
10	W Razzak	Fantasista	838
11	D Hargraves	The Levellers	827
12	J Windeatt	Father Shabooboo	821
12	C Mananczak	Jansen's XI	821
14	G Slovington	Dynamo Sldv	814
15	I McGill	The White Helmets	808
16	*J Frost*	*Variety Sports Inter*	807
17	K Wade	Inter Mars AFC	799
18	*T Sharples*	*Mr Men*	798
18	M Baker	Total Carnage	798
20	*M Titterington*	Stjohn'swhitehse	795

YOUTH LEAGUE

1	*M Somapala*	Horley Flames	971
2	D Lewis	Lewis Boys 11	963
3	J Gardner	15 Chumbawumbas	957
4	R Wicks	Robbed	947
5	M McPhillips	Ballygallyrovers	942
6	O Ledgard	Oliver's Army	926
7	C Oyston	The Offspring FC	921
8	*M Roberts*	*Krystonia Three*	874
9	G Richards	G Force 2	862
10	J Laurence	*Smooth United*	835
11	C Martenczak	Jansen's XI	821
12	K Tindall	Rush XI	808
13	E Swirles	Esther's Entertainers	799
14	G Calderbank	Calder's XI	798
15	N Brotherton	Total Commitment	795
15	D Griffiths	Gwacamolu	795
17	*N McGuinness*	*The Invincibles*	792
17	T Quartley	Frutas	792
19	*S Mawer*	*Forest Reserves2*	784
20	L Stone	Ollie's Army	778

ITF LEAGUE

1	Mr M Jones	Jb4	1138
2	*A Luckhurst*	Tobs	1125
3	A Luckhurst	Caroline B	1111
4	S Legg	Goose 4	1106
5	Mr M Jones	Jb6	1101
6	*A Luckhurst*	Tobitt	1096
7	P Turner	Turner's Earners 5	1093
8	P Turner	Turner's Earnt 5	1092
9	Mary Ann Kennedy	Inverness Undecided	1088
10	Mike Madden	Poachers never change	1085
10	Mr P Turner	Te T Cup	1085
12	A Nowaczki	Nadar	1081
12	D Shuter	Don 2	1081
14	P Turner	Turner's Earners 6	1073
15	A Luckhurst	Eddie Woo	1071
16	Chris Forde	Game of Two Pints	1070
17	*Mary Ann Kennedy*	*Too Farr*	1068
18	P Turner	Turners Earnt 1	1063
19	G Dolan	*Genesis*	1060
20	Mr D Burch	Abz	1058
21	P Bown	Bees XI	1057
22	P Turner	Turner's Earners 2	1054
23	P Turner	Turner's Earners 1	1053
24	P Bee	Bumble Two	1052
24	Mr M Jones	Jb5	1052
26	Jeremy Dwyer	Nudge Nudge Wink Wink	1049
27	Barba Papa a la Bacon	Novote Spoilers	1045
28	D Walton	Numpty Nuts	1039
29	Malcolm Jackson	Deesie	1038
30	N Wheatley	H D G Is A Sad Waster	1035
31	D Brown	Random Reserve	1033
31	P Turner	Turner's Earners 4	1033
31	P Turner	Turner's Earners 9	1033
34	A Luckhurst	Caroline A	1031
35	A Luckhurst	Wool	1030
35	J Heather	Enid 4	1030
35	C Burr	Burr's Spurs 4	1030
35	*Henry Wheeler*	*Quito Fan*	1030
39	Chris Forde	AC Dot UK	1029
40	J Hunt	*John Hunt Taunton 7*	1028
41	M Lindquist	Huntley's Rangers	1024
42	N Bennett	*Can't Lose B Team*	1023
43	Graeme Debnor	St Remy Strikers	1022
44	James Tan	*Red Scousers*	1021
45	Tim Oldfield	Winster Warriors 1	1017
46	*Andrew Bates*	Wetherby Racing 7	1016
47	J Hunt	John Hunt Taunton 8	1012
48	J Murray	Beanwitharillers5	1010
49	D Brown	Random Selection	1008
50	T Gammage	Drowned Goldfish	1007
50	Mary Ann Kennedy	Ollig Pack RNG	1007
52	T Gardner	6 Chumbawumbas	1005
52	P Rees	Yukon Merchants	1005
52	R Lockyer	Rachela	1005
55	Susan Makin	Spud2	1004
56	Mr D Patel	Dp2	1003
57	G Price	Tgp Furious	1002
57	P Bee	Bumble Twelve	1002
57	Graeme Debnor	*St Remy Streetfighters*	1002
60	Mr D Patel	Dp3	1001
60	*Mr D Patel*	Dp4	1001
62	Mike Madden	MMM Fantasy Leagues	1000
62	*P Turner*	*Tuzzers Earnt 2*	1000
64	B Bare	Teddy 1	999
64	*Andy Robson*	*Club 18-30*	999
66	D Fenton	Out Of The Blue	998
67	Michael Horan	*St Patrick's Charioteers*	995
68	Mr N Wheatley	Witheridge is ill	988
69	W Clark	*Blazen Heads*	985
69	M Fox	Foxy	985
71	*S Birchfield*	*Bugalugs 1*	984
71	Graeme Debnor	St Remy Strollers	984
73	*Mrs A Staszkiewicz*	*J.W.S. Barstewerd*	982
74	G Rainbow	Rainbows Topteam	981
75	AJ Hastings	Golden Wonders	979
75	Michael Huddlestone	Pulp Faction III	979
77	*Phil Carter*	*Pinewood Form*	977
77	Kiran R Patel	KRP F.C.	977
77	Jon Pregon	Jp 1	977
77	P Turner	Turner's Earners 10	977
81	*Colin Bennett*	*Rose's Raiders*	976
81	Mike Allison	Inter Net	976
83	*I Ralph*	*Marco Champions*	975
83	Staszkiewicz	Petunia	975
85	*Mr D Edbrooke Stainer*	Cx	974
85	V Cox	Alan Cow Dunger Haneen	974
85	*P Turner*	*Turner's Earners 3*	974
88	P Turner	Turner's Earners 7	973
89	Ian Kilip	Seaside Inter	972
90	M Woodley	Bacardi Boys 4	971
90	*S Fazakerley*	*LFC 4*	971
92	S Whatfield	Snail Busters	970
93	Philip Ward	Wannabe Heroes XI	969
94	Mrs A Staszkiewicz	Joe Jones	968
95	Ballaz	Goofy FC	967
95	Richard Lione	Hornchurch Hotshots again	967
95	Dbusby	This Year's Lot	967
95	J Hunt	John Hunt FA Cup A	967
99	Jill Worthington	Tfl Saturday A	965
99	Mrs A Staszkiewicz	Gravy Breath	965

PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE

1	Steve Potts	West Ham United	611
2	*Simon Grayson*	Aston Villa	601
3	Paul Simpson	Derby County/Wolves	587
4	*Jonathan Hunt*	Derby County	577
5	Patrik Berger	Liverpool	573
6	*Alf-Inge Haaland*	Leeds United	564
6	John Salako	Coventry City	564
8	*Rob Savage*	Leicester City	546
9	Robert Lee	Newcastle United	544
10	*David Batty*	Newcastle United	542
11	Teddy Sheringham	Manchester United	535
12	*Richard Shaw*	Coventry City	534
13	Bjorn Kvarme	Liverpool	532
14	*Dean Blackwell*	Wimbledon	530
15	Kyle Lightbourne	Coventry City	527
16	Kevin Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	522
17	*Nicky Butt*	Manchester United	521
17	David Tuttle	Crystal Palace	521
19	Phil Babb	Liverpool	519
20	*Nigel Martyn*	Leeds United	518
21	Andy Townsend	Aston Villa/Middlesbrough	515
22	Dave Watson	Everton	514
23	David Seaman	Arsenal	510
24	*Paul Williams*	Coventry City	506
25	Chris Powell	Derby County	502
26	*John Hendrie*	Barnsley	501
27	Tim Breacker	West Ham United	488
28	*Andrew Liddell*	Barnsley	486
29	Lee Dixon	Arsenal	478
30	*Roger Cross*	West Ham United	477
31	Kenny Cunningham	Wimbledon	475
32	*John Beresford*	Southampton	472
32	Ian Pearce	West Ham United	472
34	*David Beckham*	Manchester United	468
35	Lars Bohlmen	Blackburn Rovers	463
36	Robin Van Der Laan	Derby County	458
37	Dean Holdsworth	Wimbledon	456
38	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	455
39	Kenny Keller	Leicester City	451
40	*Uga Ehiogu*	Aston Villa	449
41	Nicky Eaden	Barnsley	447
42	*Richard Jobson*	Leeds United	446
43	Frank Leboeuf	Chelsea	437
44	*Graeme Le Saux*	Chelsea	436
44	Steve Lomas	West Ham United	436
44	Darren Pitcher	Crystal Palace	436
47	Steve Clarke	Chelsea	429
48	Gary Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	428
49	Pontus Kaamark	Leicester City	427
49	Kevin Muscat	Crystal Palace	427
51	Kevin Hitchcock	Chelsea	423
52	Neil Redfearn	Barnsley	422
53	David Wetherall	Leeds United	420
54	Danny Williamson	Everton	417
55	Iain Dowie	West Ham United	416
56	*Stewart Castledine*	Wimbledon	415
57	Robbie Fowler	Liverpool	408
58	*Andy Sinton*	Tottenham Hotspur	406
59	Gareth Southgate	Aston Villa	405
60	Mark Wright	Liverpool	401
61	Spencer Prior	Leicester City	400
62	*Jason Euell*	Wimbledon	397
63	John Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	390
64	Colin Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	389
65	Dennis Wise	Chelsea	388
66	*Andy Roberts*	Crystal Palace	386
66	Alan Wright	Aston Villa	386
68	John Harkes	West Ham United	381
69	Lee Sharpe	Leeds United	357
70	Lee Carsley	Derby County	352
71	Gianfranco Zola	Chelsea	338
72	Marc Edworthy	Crystal Palace	330
73	Gary Neville	Manchester United	322
74	Alan Shearer	Newcastle United	294
75	Mike Walker	Bolton Wanderers	185

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2	Mike Madden	Poachers never change	1085
3	Chris Forde	Game of Two Pints	1070
4	*Mary Ann Kennedy*	*Too Farr*	1068
5	P Bown	Bees XI	1057
6	*Jeremy Dwyer*	Nudge Nudge Wink Wink	1049
7	Barba Papa a la Bacon	Novote Spoilers	1045
8	*Henry Wheeler*	*Quito Fan*	1030
9	Chris Forde	AC Dot UK	1029
10	Graeme Debnor	St Remy Strikers	1022
11	James Tan	Red Scousers	1021
12	Tim Oldfield	Winster Warriors 1	1017
13	*Andrew Bates*	Wetherby Racing 7	1016
14	Mary Ann Kennedy	Ollig Pack RNG	1007
15	Susan Makin	Spud2	1004
16	Graeme Debnor	St Remy Streetfighters	1002
17	Mike Madden	MMM Fantasy Leagues	1000
18	Andy Robson	Club 18-30	999
19	Michael Horan	St. Patrick's Charioteers	995
20	Graeme Debnor	St Remy Strollers	984

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20	Alasdair Kennedy	Three Tabletoppers	246

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That sinking feeling for three in top flight

Should ITF entrants be thinking about relegation teams for selection? Nick Szczepanik offers a view

The shout of an agitated Barnsley supporter outside Oakwell after his team's 3-2 defeat by Liverpool, during which three of the home side's players were shown red cards, was heartfelt, if misguided: "This is all about Newcastle, Everton and Tottenham staying in the Premier League!"

Whether or not it would suit any interested parties that those perceived giants of the British game should remain in the top flight, the only way that any of them is going to be able to guarantee their continued membership of the FA Carling Premiership is by earning it on the field of play; at the moment, two of the three seem to have a very precarious hold on their status indeed.

Until recently, the main issue has appeared to be whether Barnsley can summon up enough of the fighting spirit they have discovered to overtake one of the giants. However, it will not have escaped many people's notice that Bolton Wanderers, too, have rediscovered the winning habit. After 12 games without a win, a sequence stretching back to early December, they have now managed back-to-back victories at the Reebok stadium. Too little, too late? Plenty at Goodison and St James' Park will be hoping so.

For Newcastle and Everton are the clubs most likely to drop on current form. Losing at home to Crystal Palace (which Newcastle did 13 days ago) is not the type of result expected of a team staying up, and their FA Cup semi-final against Sheffield United may be more of an unwelcome distraction than a break from league pressures.

Everton's 4-1 defeat at home by Aston Villa also set alarm bells ringing on Merseyside. Villa's revival under John Gregory is not by itself enough of an explanation for the result, Everton's heaviest of a disappointing season. Howard Kendall's manager-of-the-month award for January now seems even more of a distant event.

Tottenham may have turned the corner with their 3-1 win at Crystal Palace, although the strength of the opposition should be borne in mind. Nevertheless, they are scoring goals (six in their last two games), and seeing a return from imports like Klinsmann, Berti and Saib. The contrast with Newcastle's Tomasson and Andersson, who have yet to set Tyneside alight, is a vivid one.

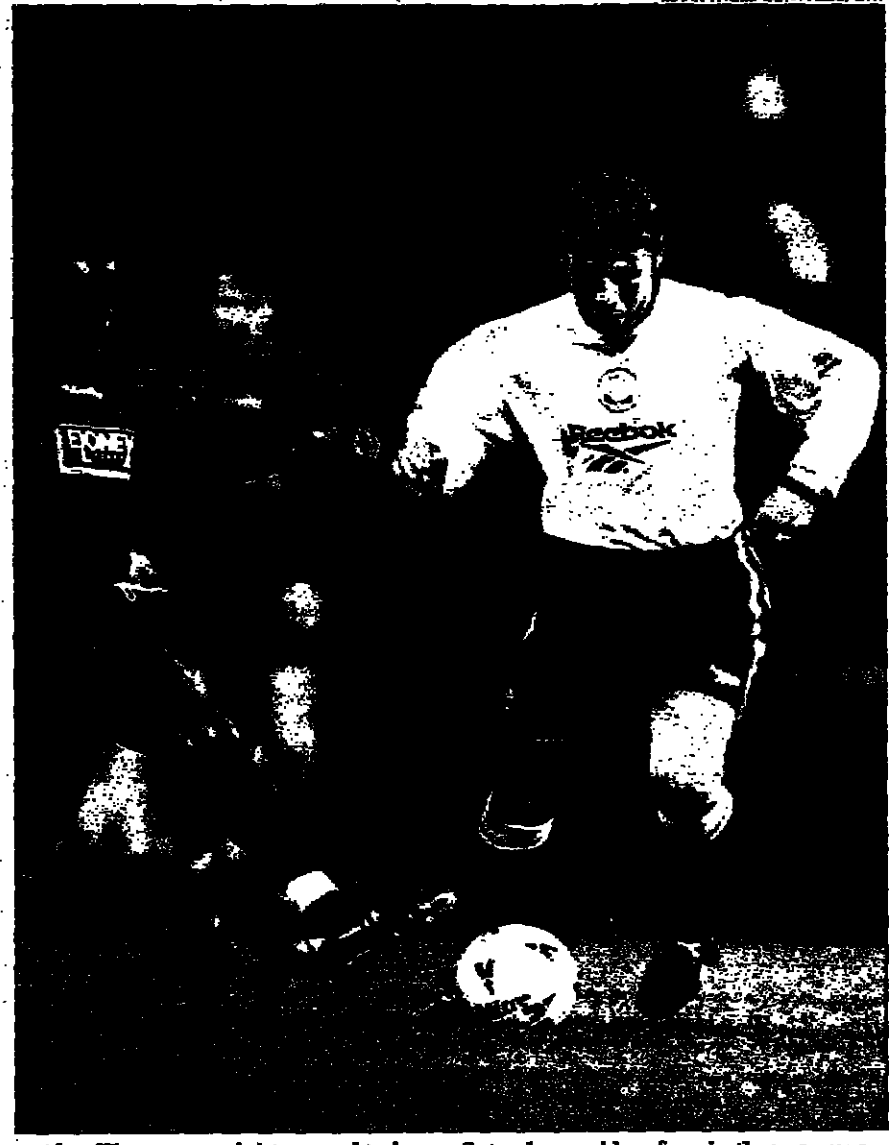
Relegation battles can be tense, tight affairs; good for ITF entrants with defenders or goalkeepers from the teams involved, if not for spectators. One such encounter takes place at White Hart Lane on Saturday, when Everton are the visitors. Newcastle will be at Old Trafford playing Sheffield United for a Wembley place, but in current form are by no means certain to triumph.

Is it, then, worth keeping players from these three teams in your selections? Extra points for wins will be less likely than penalty points for yellow cards among defenders, but low scores are possibilities, so minus points for goals conceded become less of a risk. Among the forwards, not even Alan Shearer seems a certain scorer these days, but Bolton and Barnsley have goalscorers worth considering, not least Alan Thompson: the midfield player's two on Saturday bring his total to four in three games, since he began taking a sports drink supplied by his brother-in-law, David Lee of Wigan Athletic.

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS' ASSOCIATION

SKY sports interactive

MARK THOMPSON / ALLSPORT



Alan Thompson, right, scored twice on Saturday and has four in three games

THIS WEEK'S MOVES

IN

32101	**Ronny Johnsen**	Manchester United	£3.5m
40304	**Lee Hendrie**	Aston Villa	£2.0m
41007	**Sasa Curcic**	Crystal Palace	£1.5m
41107	**Lars Bohinen**	Derby County	£2.0m
42405	**Stuart McCall**	Rangers	£2.5m
43005	**Mark Kennedy**	Wimbledon	£3.0m
50203	**Nicholas Anelka**	Arsenal	£3.0m

OUT

41006	**Neil Emblen**	Crystal Palace	£1.0m
42402	**Paul Gascoigne**	Rangers	£6.0m
43003	**Vinny Jones**	Wimbledon	£2.0m
51901	**Steve Claridge**	Leicester City	£2.5m

MOVE

40903	**John Salako**	Bolton Wanderers	£1.5m

Transferred from Coventry City

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

☐ YOU MAY *transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer* allowance. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect *the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer* system to avoid missing out on points.

☐ TEAMS registered from now on will be allocated 20 transfers for the rest of the season.

☐ THE LINE is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may *only make transfers by using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone* (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need ten digits for *your PIN which you will have to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions* and tap in the five-digit codes of the players that you are transferring.

☐ YOU MAY make up to four transfers per call but may make as many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of transfers.

☐ TRANSFERS made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for *matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12 noon will become* effective for matches starting after 12 noon the following day.

☐ YOUR NEW player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

☐ *CALLS COST 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost* approximately twice as much.

Transfer number: 0891 884 628.
Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538.

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
10101	J Leighton	Aberdeen	1.50	0	2	2	32
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	13	8	78
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.00	0	18	3	80
10401	D Watson	Barnsley	1.00	0	11	–5	–18
10501	T Flowers	Blackburn	4.00	0	9	0	57
10601	K Branagan	Bolton	1.50	0	0	8	45
10701	S Kerr	Celtic	4.00	0	0	0	0
10702	J Gould	Celtic	4.00	0	9	7	102
10801	E De Goey	Chelsea	3.00	0	–9	0	66
10901	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0	4	8	36
11001	C Nash	C Palace	0.25	0	0	0	0
11002	K Miller	C Palace	2.00	0	23	–2	36
11101	M Poom	Derby County	2.50	0	8	0	72
11201	S Dykstra	Dundee Utd	2.00	0	6	2	37
11301	I Westwater	Dunfermline	1.00	0	–2	–5	–16
11402	T Myhre	Everton	2.00	0	0	–7	4
11501	G Rousset	Hearts	3.50	0	11	7	74
11601	C Reid	Hibernian	1.50	0	0	0	–8
11602	O Gottskalks'n	Hibernian	1.50	0	0	0	–1
11702	G Marshall	Kilmarnock	1.50	0	–1	2	13
11801	N Martyn	Leeds Utd	3.50	0	13	0	115
11901	K Keller	Leicester City	3.00	0	3	0	67
12001	D James	Liverpool	4.00	0	–5	0	77
12101	P Schmeichel	Man Utd	5.00	0	–1	0	131
12201	S Howie	Motherwell	1.00	0	0	0	0
12301	S Given	Newcastle	3.00	0	11	0	46
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	0	18	–2	60
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	5	2	16
12702	P Jones	Southampton	2.00	0	0	3	40
12601	A Main	St Johnstone	0.50	0	6	8	67
12801	I Walker	Tottenham	2.50	0	3	3	25
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham	2.00	0	0	0	4
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.50	0	15	0	87

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	0	8	2	41
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	0	10	5	62
20203	E Petit	Arsenal	3.00	0	7	0	46
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	2.50	0	9	1	24
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	2.50	0	9	1	33
20303	S Grayson	Aston Villa	2.50	0	16	1	39
20304	F Nelson	Aston Villa	2.00	0	–1	0	3
20401	N Eaden	Barnsley	0.50	0	4	–2	0
20402	N Thompson	Barnsley	0.50	0	0	0	–5
20403	D Barnard	Barnsley	1.00	0	11	–3	10
20502	J Kenna	Blackburn	3.00	0	4	0	38
20503	P Valery	Blackburn	2.50	0	1	0	9
20601	N Cox	Bolton	2.00	0	1	5	5
21901	M Whitlow	Bolton	1.50	0	–2	0	5
20602	R Elliott	Bolton	2.00	0	0	0	4
20603	J Phillips	Bolton	1.00	0	0	4	–2
20701	T Boyd	Celtic	3.50	0	6	3	74
20702	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.50	0	0	0	2
20703	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	0	6	1	73
20501	G Le Saux	Chelsea	4.00	0	–1	0	26
20801	D Petrescu	Chelsea	4.00	0	–4	0	45
20802	C Babayaro	Chelsea	2.00	0	0	0	20
20803	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	0	0	14
20901	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	0	9	5	37
20903	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	0	6	0	27
20904	R Nilsson	Coventry City	1.00	0	9	5	32
21001	D Gordon	C Palace	1.50	0	10	–2	14
21002	M Edworthy	C Palace	1.50	0	13	–3	–2
21004	J Smith	C Palace	1.50	0	13	–2	–2
21101	C Powell	Derby County	2.00	0	8	0	37
21102	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0	4	0	14
21103	G Rowett	Derby County	1.50	0	1	0	26
21403	T Phelan	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	–1
21404	M Ward	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	4
21405	J O'Kane	Everton	1.50	0	0	–3	–3
21501	G Locke	Hearts	1.50	0	6	0	20
21701	D Kerr	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	5	0	23
21801	G Kelly	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	9	0	41
21802	D Robertson	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	5	0	31
21902	S Guppy	Leicester City	2.50	0	3	–1	50
22001	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	19
22002	J McAteer	Liverpool	3.00	0	–2	0	26
22003	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	4
22101	D Irwin	Man Utd	4.00	0	–2	5	44
22102	G Neville	Man Utd	3.50	0	–4	5	65
22103	P Neville	Man Utd	3.50	0	–1	5	61
22301	S Watson	Newcastle	3.00	0	6	0	30
22302	W Barton	Newcastle	2.00	0	6	0	19
22304	S Pearce	Newcastle	3.00	0	11	–2	26
22401	A Cleland	Rangers	3.00	0	9	0	42
22402	S Stensaas	Rangers	3.00	0	1	0	27
21401	A Hinchcliffe	Sheffield Wed	2.50	0	0	0	13
21402	E Barrett	Sheffield Wed	1.50	0	0	–1	3
22502	I Nolan	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	3	0	–3
22701	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0	–1	1	29
22702	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0	–2	1	18
22303	J Beresford	Southampton	2.00	0	4	1	26
22801	C Wilson	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	1	11
22802	J Edinburgh	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	0	–8
22803	S Carr	Tottenham	2.00	0	–1	1	7
22901	J Dicks	West Ham	3.00	0	0	0	0
22902	A Impey	West Ham	1.50	0	0	0	16
22903	T Breacker	West Ham	2.00	0	1	0	8
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	2.00	0	–1	–2	15
23002	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	2.00	0	9	–2	26
23003	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.00	0	9	–1	14

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
30101	B O'Neil	Aberdeen	2.00	0	–1	0	1
30201	T Adams	Arsenal	3.00	0	3	5	47
30202	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	0	6	5	32
30203	G Grimandi	Arsenal	2.00	0	10	1	40
30204	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	0	7	0	27
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.00	0	4	1	26
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	0	7	0	35
30401	A De Zeeuw	Barnsley	1.00	0	4	0	–14
30402	A Moses	Barnsley	0.50	0	2	0	–15
30403	M Appleby	Barnsley	0.50	0	1	–2	–11
30502	C Hendry	Blackburn	3.00	0	4	0	36
30504	S Henchoz	Blackburn	3.00	0	3	0	29
30505	T Pedersen	Blackburn	2.00	0	0	0	2
30601	G Taggart	Bolton	1.50	0	0	0	5
30602	G Bergsson	Bolton	1.00	0	0	–2	15
30603	C Fairclough	Bolton	1.00	0	0	0	–11
30604	M Fish	Bolton	1.50	0	0	5	15
30701	E Annoni	Celtic	1.50	0	1	0	25
30702	M MacKay	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	3
30703	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.00	0	5	3	67
30704	M Rieper	Celtic	3.00	0	6	3	62
30801	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	3.00	0	–5	0	33
30802	M Duberry	Chelsea	3.00	0	–4	0	18
30803	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.50	0	–4	0	12
30804	B Lambourde	Chelsea	2.50	0	0	0	–3
30901	L Daish	Coventry City	1.50	0	0	0	0
30902	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	8	5	30
30903	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	0	0	0	–11
31002	A Linighan	C Palace	0.75	0	10	0	13
31003	D Tuttle	C Palace	0.75	0	0	0	–2
31004	H Hreidarsson	C Palace	1.00	0	13	–2	–1
31101	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50	0	4	0	29
31102	J Laursen	Derby County	1.50	0	–1	0	19
31201	S Pressley	Dundee Utd	2.00	0	3	0	19
31301	G Shields	Dunfermline	1.50	0	–1	–2	–16
31401	S Bilic	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	–13
31402	D Watson	Everton	1.50	0	0	–3	12
31404	C Tiler	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	20
31501	D Weir	Hearts	3.00	0	15	4	48
31601	J Hughes	Hibernian	2.00	0	0	0	–11
31801	D Wetherall	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	10	0	50
31802	G Halle	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	5	0	37
31803	R Molenaar	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	14	0	38
31804	L Radebe	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	9	0	36
31901	M Elliott	Leicester City	3.50	0	3	–1	58
31902	P Kaamark	Leicester City	2.00	0	3	–1	51
31903	S Walsh	Leicester City	2.50	0	–2	0	31
31904	S Prior	Leicester City	2.00	0	5	–1	19
32001	M Wright	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	5
32002	D Matteo	Liverpool	3.00	0	–2	–1	33
32003	B Kvarme	Liverpool	3.00	0	–1	0	29
32004	P Babb	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	–2	–5
30501	H Berg	Man Utd	3.50	0	1	4	48
32101	D May	Man Utd	3.50	0	–3	4	–2
32102	G Pallister	Man Utd	3.50	0	–4	0	51
32301	P Albert	Newcastle	2.50	0	2	0	18
32302	D Peacock	Newcastle	3.00	0	4	–1	10
32303	S Howey	Newcastle	2.00	0	6	0	18
32304	A Pistone	Newcastle	3.00	0	8	–2	24
32401	S Porrini	Rangers	3.50	0	–1	0	43
32402	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	0	7	0	43
32403	L Amoruso	Rangers	3.50	0	0	0	0
32404	R Gough	Rangers	4.00	0	7	0	15
32501	D Walker	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	3	0	9
32502	J Newsome	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	3	0	14
32503	P Atherton	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	3	–1	20
32701	R Dryden	Southampton	1.00	0	0	1	9
32702	C Lundekvam	Southampton	1.50	0	0	0	12
32704	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	0	–1	0	9
32601	S McCluskey	St Johnstone	0.50	0	0	1	10
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham	2.00	0	3	1	17
32802	J Scales	Tottenham	1.50	0	0	0	1
32803	R Vega	Tottenham	1.50	0	–2	1	10
32804	C Calderwood	Tottenham	1.50	0	4	1	22
32901	R Ferdinand	West Ham	2.50	0	1	0	17
32902	R Hall	West Ham	2.00	0	0	0	0
31403	D Unsworth	West Ham	2.00	0	2	0	24
32903	S Potts	West Ham	1.50	0	0	0	10
32904	I Pearce	West Ham	2.00	0	5	0	19
31001	A Roberts	Wimbledon	1.50	0	13	–1	22
33001	C Perry	Wimbledon	2.50	0	8	–1	28
33002	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	2.50	0	3	0	25

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
40101	E Jess	Aberdeen	2.00	0	1	4	63
40102	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.00	0	1	0	16
40201	M Overmars	Arsenal	5.50	0	16	3	89
40202	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.50	0	11	3	52
40203	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00	0	6	3	30
40204	R Parlour	Arsenal	3.50	0	11	2	62
40206	D Platt	Arsenal	1.50	0	1	0	30
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	3.00	0	8	1	57
40302	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	0	5	2	54
40401	N Redfearn	Barnsley	3.00	0	14	7	85
40402	E Tinkler	Barnsley	2.00	0	4	0	36
40403	D Sheridan	Barnsley	1.00	0	4	–2	30
40404	M Bullock	Barnsley	0.50	0	6	1	33
40501	J Wilcox	Blackburn	3.00	0	5	0	41
40502	B McKinlay	Blackburn	3.00	0	4	0	33
40503	T Sherwood	Blackburn	3.00	0	13	0	65
40504	G Flitcroft	Blackburn	3.00	0	3	0	35
40601	A Thompson	Bolton	2.50	0	0	8	51
40602	S Sellars	Bolton	2.00	0	0	0	30
40603	P Frandsen	Bolton	2.00	0	0	3	45
40604	M Johansen	Bolton	2.00	0	0	1	7

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
40702	P O'Donnell	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	12
42503	R Blinker	Celtic	3.00	0	2	0	24
40704	C Burley	Celtic	4.00	0	6	2	84
40705	P Lambert	Celtic	3.00	0	6	2	47
40801	D Wise	Chelsea	3.50	0	0	0	43
40802	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	4.00	0	0	0	43
40803	E Newton	Chelsea	1.50	0	0	0	16
40804	G Poyet	Chelsea	3.00	0	0	0	28
40901	G McAllister	Coventry City	2.50	0	0	0	20
40902	T Soltvedt	Coventry City	1.50	0	5	3	46
40903	J Salako	Coventry City	1.50	0	0	2	17
40904	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	0	12	2	40
40905	G Boateng	Coventry City	1.50	0	3	3	16
41002	S Rodger	C Palace	1.00	0	6	1	39
41003	D Pitcher	C Palace	0.25	0	0	0	0
41004	P Warhurst	C Palace	1.50	0	3	0	34
41005	A Lombardo	C Palace	3.00	0	0	1	28
41006	N Emblen	C Palace	1.00	0	0	0	0
41102	S Eranio	Derby County	3.50	0	1	0	38
41103	D Powell	Derby County	1.50	0	3	1	22
41104	C Daily	Derby County	1.50	0	0	1	26
41105	R Van Der Laan	Derby County	1.00	0	0	0	8
41106	J Hunt	Derby County	1.00	0	0	0	18
41201	R Winters	Dundee Utd	3.50	0	9	0	63
41301	A Smith	Dunfermline	3.50	0	27	7	99
41402	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	0
41403	G Farrelly	Everton	1.50	0	1	1	22
41404	D Williamson	Everton	2.00	0	0	0	19
41405	J Oster	Everton	2.50	0	–1	1	12
41406	D Hutchison	Everton	2.00	0	0	1	3
41501	N McCann	Hearts	3.50	0	7	2	83
41601	C Jackson	Hibernian	2.00	0	1	0	13
41602	B Lavety	Hibernian	2.00	0	0	0	34
41701	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	2.00	0	0	0	11
41001	D Hopkin	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	2	0	42
41801	L Bowyer	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	8	0	41
41802	A Haaland	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	2	0	48
41803	L Sharpe	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	0	0	0
41804	B Ribeiro	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	4	0	24
41901	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	0	7	1	33
41902	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	0	3	1	53
41903	M Izzet	Leicester City	2.00	0	2	0	55
41904	S Taylor	Leicester City	1.50	0	0	0	0
42001	S McManaman	Liverpool	6.00	0	1	5	89
42002	O Leonhardsen	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	2	48
42003	M Thomas	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	14
42004	J Redknapp	Liverpool	3.00	0	4	2	46
42006	P Ince	Liverpool	4.00	0	0	2	52
42101	D Beckham	Man Utd	8.00	0	12	3	86
42102	R Giggs	Man Utd	7.00	0	3	0	73
42103	R Keane	Man Utd	5.00	0	0	0	23
42104	N Butt	Man Utd	4.00	0	2	0	58
42105	A Cole	Man Utd	8.50	0	20	3	115
42201	B Davies	Motherwell	2.00	0	1	2	19
41401	G Speed	Newcastle	3.50	0	8	0	65
42301	R Lee	Newcastle	5.00	0	10	4	52
42302	K Gillespie	Newcastle	3.50	0	9	1	54
42303	D Batty	Newcastle	2.50	0	10	0	38
42005	J Barnes	Newcastle	3.00	0	5	1	52
42401	B Laudrup	Rangers	6.50	0	5	2	53
42402	P Gascoigne	Rangers	6.00	0	4	0	34
42403	J Thern	Rangers	3.00	0	2	5	41
42404	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	0	14	2	73
42501	B Carbone	Sheffield Wed	3.00	0	1	1	52
42701	J Magilton	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	1	0	27
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	5	1	47
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wed	1.00	0	3	0	14
42505	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wed	1.50	0	1	0	15
42702	R Slater	Southampton	0.75	0	0	0	8
42704	K Richardson	Southampton	0.50	0	1	1	39
42705	C Palmer	Southampton	2.00	0	0	1	35
42706	M Oakley	Southampton	1.50	0	1	1	31
42601	A Sekerlioglu	St Johnstone	0.75	0	1	2	16
42801	A Sinton	Tottenham	2.00	0	1	0	22
42802	D Anderton	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	0	7
42803	R Fox	Tottenham	2.00	0	2	1	48
42804	D Howells	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	2	23
42805	D Ginola	Tottenham	3.50	0	6	0	57
42806	N Berti	Tottenham	2.00	0	1	5	18
42901	E Berkovic	West Ham	3.50	0	13	0	71
42902	S Lomas	West Ham	2.50	0	8	0	44
42903	J Moncur	West Ham	2.00	0	3	0	23
42905	F Lampard	West Ham	2.50	0	6	0	13
42906	T Sinclair	West Ham	3.50	0	0	0	17
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	3.00	0	5	1	42
43002	N Ardley	Wimbledon	2.00	0	12	1	53
43003	V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00	0	6	0	35
42904	M Hughes	Wimbledon	3.00	0	13	1	60
43004	C Hughes	Wimbledon	1.50	0	2	0	18

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
50101	B Dodds	Aberdeen	4.00	0	1	1	43
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.50	0	2	0	57
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	8.50	0	12	4	80
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	6.00	0	8	6	49
50302	S Collymore	Aston Villa	5.00	0	8	0	46
50303	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.00	0	5	0	34
50401	G Hristov	Barnsley	1.50	0	2	0	18
50402	J Hendrie	Barnsley	1.50	0	9	0	20
51102	A Ward	Barnsley	2.00	0	10	0	52
50403	C Marcelle	Barnsley	1.00	0	4	1	17
50404	J Fjortoft	Barnsley	2.00	0	0	1	17
50501	K Gallacher	Blackburn	6.50	0	8	0	77
50502	M Dahlin	Blackburn	4.00	0	0	0	18
50503	C Sutton	Blackburn	6.50	0	10	0	93
50602	N Blake	Bolton	3.50	0	1	0	44
50603	P Beardsley	Bolton	2.00	0	0	0	17
53003	D Holdsworth	Bolton	3.00	0	0	1	17
51601	D Jackson	Celtic	4.00	0	4	0	23
50703	T Johnson	Celtic	2.50	0	0	0	1
50704	S Donnelly	Celtic	4.50	0	3	0	34
50705	H Larsson	Celtic	4.50	0	6	1	64
50706	H Brattbakk	Celtic	6.00	0	4	1	8
50801	G Zola	Chelsea	7.00	0	1	0	57
50802	M Hughes	Chelsea	3.50	0	0	0	33
50803	T Flo	Chelsea	4.00	0	0	0	7
50901	D Dublin	Coventry City	6.00	0	16	2	86
50902	D Huckerby	Coventry City	4.00	0	10	4	64
50903	N Whelan	Coventry City	2.00	0	4	2	29
50904	V Moldovan	Coventry City	3.00	0	6	0	16
51001	N Shipperley	C Palace	1.50	0	0	2	31
51003	B Dyer	C Palace	3.00	0	22	0	51
51004	M Padovano	C Palace	2.50	0	0	1	6
51101	D Sturridge	Derby County	4.00	0	0	0	39
51103	F Baiano	Derby County	5.00	0	5	1	63
51104	D Burton	Derby County	1.50	0	2	0	14
51105	P Wanchope	Derby County	3.50	0	2	1	35
51201	A McLaren	Dundee Utd	3.00	0	6	0	35
51202	K Olofsson	Dundee Utd	4.00	0	14	1	73
51301	G Britton	Dunfermline	2.00	0	0	1	11
51401	D Ferguson	Everton	4.00	0	0	0	46
51402	N Barmby	Everton	3.00	0	1	0	28
51404	D Cadamarteri	Everton	2.50	0	1	0	12
51501	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	0	2	0	28
51502	J Hamilton	Hearts	3.00	0	8	1	42
51602	S Crawford	Hibernian	3.00	0	1	1	26
51701	P Wright	Kilmarnock	5.00	0	3	1	50
51702	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	2.50	0	2	0	31
51801	J Hasselbaink	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	14	0	62
51803	R Wallace	Leeds Utd	3.50	0	9	0	64
51804	H Kewell	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	11	0	28
51901	S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50	0	0	0	15
51902	E Heskey	Leicester City	4.50	0	3	1	42
51903	I Marshall	Leicester City	2.50	0	5	0	36
51904	G Fenton	Leicester City	2.00	0	1	0	18
52001	R Fowler	Liverpool	8.00	0	1	0	42
52002	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	30
52003	K Riedle	Liverpool	4.50	0	1	6	31
52004	M Owen	Liverpool	4.50	0	0	2	59
52101	O Solskjaer	Man Utd	7.50	0	6	2	40
52102	T Sheringham	Man Utd	7.00	0	8	0	57
52103	P Scholes	Man Utd	6.00	0	3	4	46
52201	O Coyle	Motherwell	3.00	0	7	4	59
52202	T Coyne	Motherwell	3.00	0	7	2	59
52301	A Shearer	Newcastle	10.00	0	13	1	23
52304	J Tomasson	Newcastle	2.00	0	4	1	21
52305	A Andersson	Newcastle	3.00	0	2	0	7
52401	M Negri	Rangers	8.50	0	8	2	134
52402	S Rozental	Rangers	3.50	0	1	0	2
52403	G Durie	Rangers	3.00	0	10	0	43
52501	A Booth	Sheffield Wed	3.00	0	3	1	49
50702	P Di Canio	Sheffield Wed	3.00	0	0	1	53
52503	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	1	0	6
52701	M Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00	0	1	3	42
52502	D Hirst	Southampton	2.50	0	1	2	52
52702	E Ostenstad	Southampton	2.50	0	0	2	39
52704	K Davies	Southampton	4.00	0	1	0	15
52601	G O'Boyle	St Johnstone	1.50	0	7	2	52
52602	R Grant	St Johnstone	1.00	0	2	1	28
52801	S Iversen	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	0	13
52302	L Ferdinand	Tottenham	6.00	0	2	0	28
52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham	2.50	0	0	3	24
52803	J Domingues	Tottenham	2.00	0	1	0	3
52804	J Klinsmann	Tottenham	5.00	0	4	4	19
52901	J Hartson	West Ham	6.00	0	14	0	71
52902	P Kitson	West Ham	3.00	0	5	0	29
53001	M Gayle	Wimbledon	3.00	0	7	1	33
53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	3.00	0	1	0	23
53004	C Cort	Wimbledon	2.00	0	5	0	13

MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
60102	A Miller	Aberdeen	1.50	0	–1	1	13
60201	A Wenger	Arsenal	4.00	0	15	3	68
60302	J Gregory	Aston Villa	1.50	0	0	3	8
60401	D Wilson	Barnsley	0.50	0	10	–1	24
60501	R Hodgson	Blackburn	4.50	0	6	0	47
60601	C Todd	Bolton	1.50	0	–1	3	17
60701	W Jansen	Celtic	4.00	0	9	1	68
60802	G Vialli	Chelsea	3.50	0	0	0	–1
60901	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.00	0	9	3	43
61002	A Lombardo	C Palace	0.75	0	0	–1	2
61101	J Smith	Derby County	2.50	0	2	–1	36
61201	T McLean	Dundee Utd	2.00	0	6	–1	25
61301	B Paton	Dunfermline	1.00	0	2	–1	19
61401	H Kendall	Everton	2.00	0	–1	–1	18
61501	J Jefferies	Hearts	4.00	0	9	1	68
61602	A McLeish	Hibernian	1.00	0	0	1	4
61701	B Williamson	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	2	–1	29
61801	G Graham	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	8	0	46
61901	M O'Neill	Leicester City	2.50	0	2	–1	32
62001	R Evans	Liverpool	4.00	0	–1	3	46
62101	A Ferguson	Man Utd	5.00	0	6	3	62
62201	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.00	0	4	3	17
62301	K Dalglish	Newcastle	3.00	0	13	–1	35
62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00	0	11	3	64
62502	R Atkinson	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	3	–1	22
62701	D Jones	Southampton	1.50	0	–1	3	28
62601	P Sturrock	St Johnstone	0.50	0	5	3	26
62802	C Gross	Tottenham	2.00	0	3	3	17
62901	H Redknapp	West Ham	2.00	0	10	0	43
63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	2.00	0	7	–1	30

THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY MARCH 31 1998

NEWS

Brown under fire as pound soars

■ The pound yesterday soared to its highest level for a decade, threatening to condemn manufacturing to recession and putting the spotlight on the Chancellor's economic policies. Sterling reached 108.9 against a basket of world currencies.

Gordon Brown today faces a grilling from MPs on the powerful Commons Treasury Committee on his Budget but the strength of sterling and the painful impact on British exporters is likely to be high on the agenda ..... Pages 1, 28

Unwelcome Kosovan refugees fly in

■ Britain accused Italy of playing "pass the parcel" with asylum seekers after it dumped 56 Kosovan refugees in Britain. A policeman in Rome had ordered the Alitalia airline to fly them to Heathrow, where they arrived without documents although Britian had refused to accept them ..... Page 1

Mowlam hits out

Mo Mowlam is fighting plans by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, to increase the rights of prison officers serving in Northern Ireland, according to a leaked letter ..... Page 2

Rolling on

Enthusiasts determined to keep Rolls-Royce Motors in British hands refused to give up despite the announcement that a £340 million bid from BMW had been accepted ..... Page 9

Road rage deaths

A young couple were killed when an impatient rally driver shunted their car off the road and into oncoming traffic because he wanted to overtake, the Old Bailey was told ..... Page 3

Road to ruin

The 280-mile Amazon Highway in the North of Brazil, built to open the area to development, symbolises the destructive policies that have led to the catastrophic fires ..... Page 11

Abbey discord

A leading judge whose son is a chorister at Westminster Abbey offered to intervene and resolve the dispute between the Dean and Chapter and the organist, Dr Martin Neary ..... Page 4

Yeltsin bows out

President Yeltsin said he would not contest the next presidential elections, but ruled out nominating a successor, even Viktor Chernomyrdin, his trusted former Prime Minister .Pages 12, 19

Punching her weight

Jane Couch, known in the ring as the Fleetwood Assassin, won the first round in her fight to become Britain's first licensed professional female boxer ..... Page 5

EU agony

Europe embarked on the road to union with the former communist bloc and Cyprus, promising pain for the rich Western club and the 11 poor candidates ..... Page 13

Not Mott

The record company K-Tel was fined £8,000 by magistrates for supplying a CD of the pop group Mott the Hoople with a false description ..... Page 6

Nuns under fire

Hundreds of orphaned children suffered public floggings, torture and rape at the hands of Roman Catholic nuns, an Australian academic claimed ..... Page 14

Extra lessons

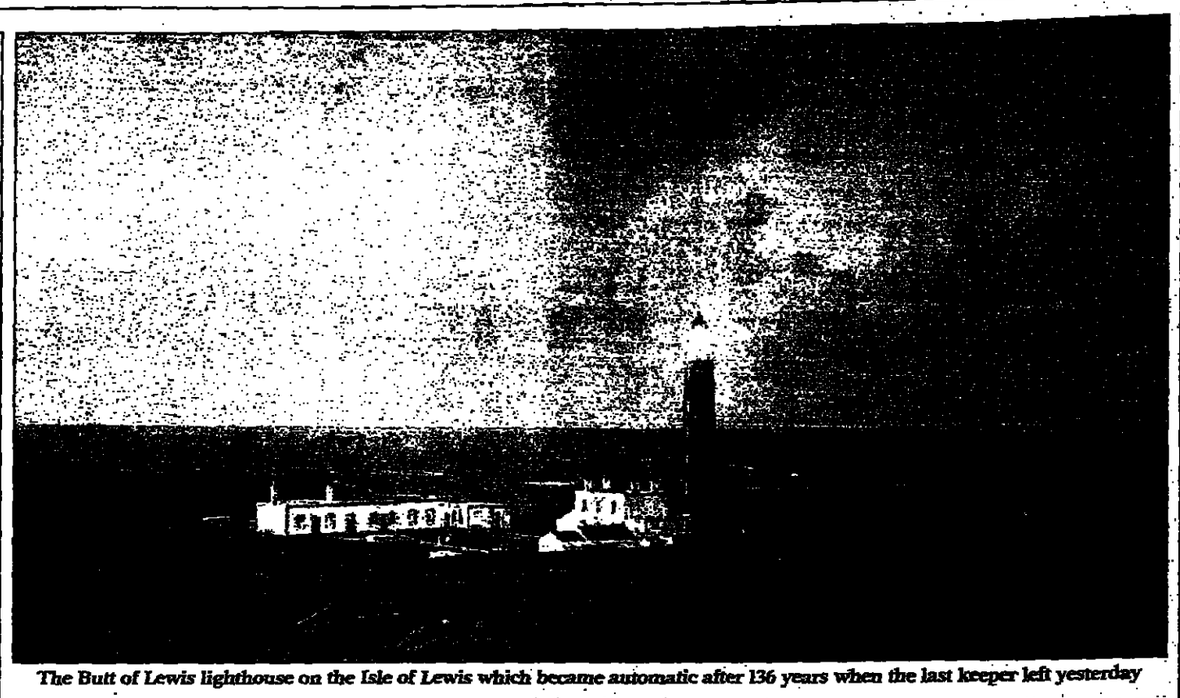
The head of a West Yorkshire primary school and two staff took on second jobs to raise more than £40,000 for their crumbling Victorian school ..... Page 8

Clinton's court tryst

President Clinton may face a parade of women testifing during the Paula Jones sexual harassment trial in May about alleged affairs with him ..... Page 15

Free the Weatherfield One

☐ A backbench Labour MP demanded that Jack Straw secure the immediate release of Deirdre Rachid, jailed for 18 months after being convicted of fraud. Fraser Kemp, MP for Houghton and Washington East, said he spoke for up to 20 million ordinary citizens. Ms Rachid exists only in the fictional Weatherfield, where *Coronation Street* lies ..... Page 1



The Butt of Lewis lighthouse on the Isle of Lewis which became automatic after 136 years when the last keeper left yesterday

BUSINESS

Vickers: BMW's triumphant £340 million bid for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars may not have been the highest offer for the carmaker which announced the deal ..... Page 27

SmithKline Beecham: The pharmaceutical giant is to meet leading institutional investors in an attempt to head off a shareholder revolt over the board's level of pay and options ..... Page 27

Canary Wharf: The international bank HSBC unveiled plans to build a £500 million headquarters in London's docklands ..... Page 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 27.4 points to close at 5911.9. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 108.2 to 108.7 after a fall from $1.6827 to $1.6776 but a rise from DM3.0765 to DM3.0945 ... Page 30

SPORT

Football: Manchester United are committing at least £60 million to retaining the long-term services of six of their most talented young players ..... Page 52

Cricket: England's cricketers were reflecting on a satisfying if nerve-jangling win over West Indies in Bridgetown, Barbados, in the first one-day international ..... Page 48

Rugby union: The RFU has upset Wasps and Saracens by deciding that tickets for the Tetley's Bitter Cup final at Twickenham in May will not be released through the clubs ..... Page 52

Tennis: Marcelo Rios appeared unimpressed to hear that he had ended Pete Sampras's two-year reign as the world No 1. Tim Henman has risen to No 15 ..... Page 50

Screen life: Martin Scorsese is the latest Hollywood big-hitter to bring the story of the Dalai Lama to the big screen. But his new film, *Kundun*, is unlikely to win him any awards in Tinseltown ..... Page 36

Strings on show: The Royal Academy of Music celebrates 400 years of British violin-making and proves that the Italians are not the only ones who can make world-beating instruments ..... Page 36

Russian vision: The weird world of the Kabakovs, keepers of the avant-garde art flame under Soviet oppression, comes alive at the Round House in north London ..... Page 37

Croatian drama: *The Measles*, Ivan Vidic's peculiar slant on school life, proves to be pretty unfathomable, Jeremy Kingston writes ..... Page 38

Lethal habits: Grace Bradberry meets the acrobatic and deadly Zen kung fu monks ..... Page 16

Dr Stuttaford: Differences betwen pallor and anaemia ..... Page 16

Taking off: Inès de la Fressange's down-to-earth stance on design could fire her into the marketing stratosphere ..... Page 17

Saving children: The Children's Society is finding ways of protecting the army of girls and boys adrift in Britain ..... Pages 22, 23

Little earners: Small businesses do not come much smaller than the one run by Tikki Adorian — she breeds miniature horses, some of them only 30in high ..... Page 34

Home help: How the Government could help people making their biggest purchase ..... Page 39

There is precious little remaining of the modicum of mutual trust that once existed between Israel and Palestine. The outcome of the warning that the US might decide to let the two sides work things out by themselves could be the degeneration of the fragile relations between Israel and the Palestinians into open violence — *Ha'aretz*, Israel



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **INTERFACE**
The AA takes to the information superhighway

■ **HOMES**
Estate agents get a bad press. Stereotyped as dishonest, they don't always deserve it. But just occasionally . . .

Preview: The first man in space found his sudden celebrity hard to take. *Yuri Gagarin: Starman* (ITV, 9pm). **Review:** Joe Joseph on television's obsession with bad neighbours ..... Pages 50, 51

Hard bargaining

Had Mr Blair not persuaded business to trust him, had he not persuaded voters that Labour had escaped the grip of the union barons, he would not have won the election. If there is any return to the bad old days of union power, he may not win the next one ..Page 19

Home on the hill

For Africa's sake, the Hill must somehow be won over before the Easter recess ..... Page 19

Better read than dead

Doctors should not be critics manqué. Ask them if Keats is superior to Dylan and they'll only suggest you get a second opinion ..Page 19

LIBBY PURVES

We know that specimen press releases, speeches, and photo-opportunity ideas constantly emanate from Millbank Tower; the problem is that they get used. A spokesman said that MPs are independent agents but "welcome the opportunity of having standard responses to use if they want to" ..... Page 18

ANNA REID

Like the spoilt child of divorcees, Ukraine has become expert at playing off the White House against the Kremlin. The sooner mum and dad make it take its medicine, the better for us, for Russia, and for the pensioners standing patiently in the Kiev snow ..... Page 18

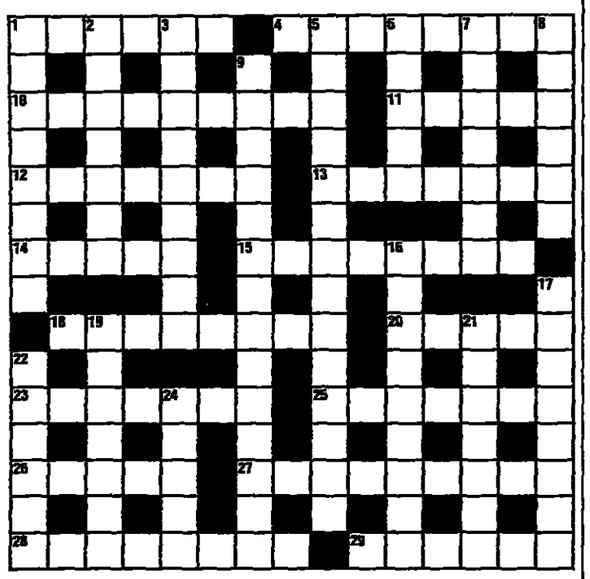
KEITH BLACKMORE

Hillsborough was a bad day for football. Heysel was a bad day for football. But Saturday was not. Saturday was a bad day for news and a good day for politicians ..Page 18

David Hicks, interior decorator; Ferry Porsche, Austrian car designer; Jack Craine, Canadian broadcasting executive ..... Page 21

London's Mayor; HMS Pansy; muntjac deer; Indonesian crisis; small claims; Yeltsin; Summer Time; tax on motoring; Commons traditions ..... Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,753



ACROSS

1 Struggle and fight with energy (6).
4 Officer putting lid on money (5,3).
10 Understand one has to count — like a computer? (9).
11 Where packets often are confused (2,3).
12 Lots of asses, originally (7).
13 Oriental creature returned plates (7).
14 Authority remains totally silent? (3-2).
15 Rum given by sailor to two little boys (8).
18 Beef done with stuff I put on (8).
20 Film star with nothing to boast about? (5).
23 Man who amassed wealth from corrupt sources (7).
25 This competitor may still be an outsider, however (7).
26 Sweet-sounding wild animals (5).
27 Sporting types on river row on with same movement (9).
28 British general shows American one round mess inside (4,4).
29 Rules governing sentence as charge follows offence, say (6).

DOWN

1 Extra food that's left if it's not right? (4,4).
2 It's the result of another's incapacity, as a rule (7).
3 Gradually concludes saint is in error (6,3).
5 Part of army soldiers put up with in general? Yes, possibly (5,9).
6 Crowd taken in by ruthless warmonger (5).
7 Has no problem smothering an exclamation of praise (7).
8 So-called father dividing our capital (6).
9 No trouble, unlike Roman architecture (3,2,1,4,4).
16 Side not playing on own ground immediately (5,4).
17 Military establishment for US reserves (4,4).
19 Sherry produced in loving way (7).
21 Again allow to enter US university after study (7).
22 Seafood is served up outside tents (6).
24 Horse made into hotpot when wife's away? (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20752

T	E	M	P	E	R	A	M	E	N	T	A	L		
H	A	A	P	A	U	U	A							
R	E	G	I	S	T	R	A	R		R	E	C	A	P
E	U	T	O	F	N	R	P							
E	L	S	I	E		P	O	L	E		B	A	I	L
C		R	O	A	R	T	E							
A	C	H	A	T	E	S		P	R	O	V	I	S	O
R	O	T					M				V		F	
D	U	N	E	D	I	N		P	L	A	C	E	B	O
T		E		E		U		N				N		
R	A	Y	S		E	W	E	R		E	V	A	D	E
I		C		S		S		P		S		Q		S
C	R	O	F	T		M	O	O	N	Q	U	A	K	E
K		M		A		R		U		B		Y		
		B	E	Y	O	N	D	T	H	E	P	A	L	E

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Coltishall, Norfolk, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Baltasound, Shetland, 10C (50F); highest rainfall: Fair Isle, 0.71in; highest sunshine: Isle of Man, 5.2hr

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997



ABROAD

Ajaccio	17	63	s	Cologne	21	70	s	Madrid	11	52	r
Alicante	15	59	f	Corfu	16	61	s	Majorca	21	70	s
Alex'dria	17	63	f	C'phagn	9	48	f	Malaga	16	61	f
Algiers	23	73	r	Dublin	10	50	f	Malta	16	61	s
Amst'dm	17	63	c	Dubrovnik	18	64	s	Melb'rne	18	64	c
Athens	15	59	s	Faro	28	82	s	Mexico C	X		
B Aires	X			Florence	18	64	s	Miami	28	82	f
Bahrain	34	93	s	Frankfurt	19	66	s	Milan	20	68	s
Bangkok	37	99	s	Funchal	18	64	f	Montreal	10	50	c
Barbados	X			Geneva	17	63	s	Moscow	7	45	s
Barcelona	16	61	f	Gibraltar	14	57	r	Munich	17	63	s
Beijing	20	68	f	Helsinki	4	39	c	N Delhi	28	82	f
Beirut	13	55	f	Hong K	26	79	f	N York	26	79	s
Belgrade	12	54	f	Innsbruck	18	64	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Berlin	16	61	s	Istanbul	4	39	r	Naples	18	61	s
Bermuda	X			Jeddah	35	77	f	Nice	15	59	s
Biarritz	20	68	f	Jo'burg	26	79	f	Oslo	7	45	c
Borde'x	18	64	s	L Angeles	13	55	s	Paris	19	66	f
Brussels	19	66	s	L Palmas	22	72	f	Perth	30	86	s
Budapst	12	54	f	Le Touqt	19	66	f	Prague	14	57	f
Cairo	20	68	c	Lisbon	16	61	c	Reykjavik	0	32	c
Capo Tn	30	86	s	Locarno	17	63	s	Rhodes	13	55	f
Ch'church	29	84	X	Luxembg	18	64	s	Rio de J	29	84	f
Chicago	23	73	s	Luxor	22	72	s	Riyadh	31	88	s

Seville	18	64	f	Rome	17	63	s	Tenerife	21	70	f
Singapore	31	88	s	S Fr'isco	12	54	f	Tokyo	20	68	s
Stockholm	7	45	s	S Paulo	X			Toronto	17	63	s
Strasbourg	19	66	s	Salzburg	17	63	s	Tunis	20	68	f
Sydney	23	73	c	Santiago	X			Valencia	16	61	f
Tangier	19	66	r	Seoul	18	64	s	Vanc'ver	8	46	r
Tel Aviv	17	63	f	Singapore	31	88	s	Venice	18	61	s
Tenerife	21	70	f	Stockholm	7	45	s	Vienna	13	55	s
Tokyo	20	68	s	Strasbourg	19	66	s	Warsaw	5	41	c
Toronto	17	63	s	Sydney	23	73	c	Wash'ton	22	72	s
Tunis	20	68	f	Tangier	19	66	r	Wellington	21	70	X
Valencia	16	61	f	Tel Aviv	17	63	f	Zurich	18	64	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Sunday X = not available

ABROAD YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; du=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.0	0.30	15	59	r	Leeds	2.0	0.39	16	61	b
Anglesey	4.6	0.06	13	55	s	Lerwick	-	0.52	10	50	r
Aviemore	1.8	0.26	13	55	d	Leuchars	1.9	0.58	15	59	b
Aviemore	1.1	0.12	12	54	sh	Littlehmpton	0.1	0.28	13	55	du
Belfast	1.0	0.31	14	57	c	London	1.8	0.01	17	63	b
Birmingham	2.1	0.21	16	59	s	Lowestoft	2.9	0.01	17	63	s
Bognor R	0.8	0.29	13	55	c	Manchester	2.0	0.17	15	59	s
Bournem'th	0.8	0.30	14	57	d	Margate	3.0	-	17	63	s
Bristol	1.0	0.01	13	55	s	Minehead	0.5	0.01	12	54	c
Buxton	2.2	0.35	13	55	s	Morecambe	0.9	0.19	13	55	c
Cardiff	X	0.02	13	55	c	Newcastle	3.2	0.14	15	59	b
Clacton	X		13	55	b	Newquay	1.8	0.01	12	54	s
Cleethorpes	1.8	0.15	17	63	sh	Norwich	2.7	-	17	63	b
Colwyn Bay	X					Oxford	0.3	0.06	15	59	c
Cromer	3.2	0.01	19	66	b	Penzance	X	0.01	15	59	s
Dunbar	X					Poole	0.1	0.21	15	59	c
Eastbourne	X					Prestatyn	X	0.01	16	61	s
Edinburgh	1.9	0.36	16	61	d	Ross on Wye	X	0.19	15	59	s
Eskdalemuir	1.1	0.57	11	52	fg	Salcombe	2.2	0.05	13	55	b
Exmouth	1.6	0.05	13	55	b	Saunin Snd	-	0.04	11	52	c
Falmouth	4.0	-	17	63	s	Scarboro'	X				
Fishguard	4.8	0.01	12	54	d	Shrewsbury	3.5	0.04	15	59	s
Folkestone	3.6	-	14	57	b	Skegness	1.0	0.03	17	63	s
Glasgow	1.5	0.28	14	57	r	Southend	2.4	-	X	X	b
Guernsey	1.5	0.26	14	57	b	Southport	X	0.18	14	57	s
Hastings	1.7	0.01	14	57	d	Southsea	2.4	0.17	14	57	c
Hayling I	1.8	0.15	14	57	b	Stornoway	-	0.46	10	50	r
Herne Bay	X					Swanage	0.2	0.29	14	57	sh
Hove	X					Teignmouth	2.1	0.04	15	59	b
Hunstanton	0.3	-	17	63	c	Tenby	1.1	0.01	12	54	b
Isle of Man	5.2	0.17	13	55	s	Tiree	1.6	0.44	12	54	d
Isle of Wight	2.5	0.28	13	55	b	Torquay	0.5	0.03	15	59	b
Jersey	-	0.25	13	55	c	Weston s Mare	-	-	15	59	c
Kinloss	2.6	0.27	17	63	sh	Weymouth	-	0.06	13	55	b

FORECAST

☐ **General:** most of England and Wales will be dry with some sunny spells after a misty start. Hills in the west may catch some drizzle, and rain will approach extreme south east. Scotland will have a mostly dry day with sunny spells developing. The far northeast may catch one or two passing showers, and southwest Scotland may have some drizzle. Northern Ireland will be generally overcast with occasional rain and drizzle. Tonight will start dry in most areas but the south and west of England and Wales will be cloudy with light rain.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** bright in most areas after early mist has lifted but some showery rain is likely across eastern parts of Kent, Essex and Suffolk. Light east to southeast winds. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Central S England, E & W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** sunny spells after early mist. Moderate east to southeasterly wind. Max 15C (59F).

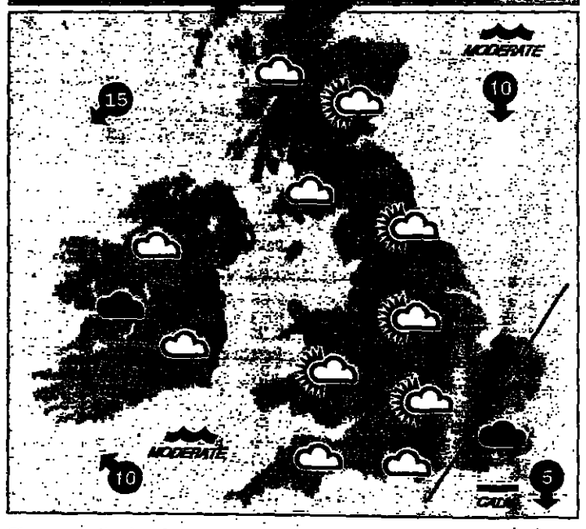
☐ **E England, Central N England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** some sunshine after mist patches. Cool on coasts but mild elsewhere. Light east to northeast wind. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland:** drizzle at first over hills, brighter with brief sunny intervals later. Light east to southeast wind. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** spells of sunshine with isolated showers, clearing later. Fresh north to northwest wind, decreasing moderate northeasterly. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** sunny intervals after early mist, then cloudy in south with some rain. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Outlook:** rather cloudy and unsettled with outbreaks of rain over much of the country, although northern Scotland may stay dry and bright. It will become breezier on Thursday.



Changes to the chart from noon: high A builds gradually as it drifts towards NW Norway; low D is almost stationary as it slowly fills; low Q loses its identity *in situ*



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	3:20	4.4	3:36	4.5	Liverpool	1:06	9.6	1:26	10.0
Avonmouth	8:24	14.2	9:41	13.8	London Bridge	3:48	7.1	4:16	7.6
Belfast	0:57	3.5	1:18	3.6	Lowestoft	11:40	2.3	11:53	2.6
Cardiff	9:10	12.1	9:27	12.7	Margate	1:53	4.1	2:20	4.9
Devonport	8:00	5.8	8:22	5.6	Milford Haven	8:25	6.5	8:45	7.2
Dover	0:51	7.1	1:16	6.8	Newquay	7:17	6.1	7:38	7.2
Dublin	1:25	4.3	1:46	4.4	Oban	7:58	3.1	7:58	3.9
Falmouth	7:31	5.5	7:53	5.4	Penzance	6:45	5.0	7:05	5.8
Greenock	2:30	3.5	2:53	3.7	Portland	9:27	2.2	9:37	2.1
Harwich	1:45	4.3	2:11	4.1	Portsmouth	1:12	4.0	1:32	4.3
Holyhead	0:09	5.8	12:31	6.0	Shoreham	1:35	3.9	1:51	5.6
Hull (Albert D)	8:21	9.1	8:37	9.3	Southampton	6:38	4.5	12:57	4.7
Ilfracombe	8:12	9.9	8:29	9.6	Swansea	9:38	10.1	9:46	9.7
King's Lynn	8:32	7.0	8:44	7.3	Tees	5:50	8.7	6:06	8.8
Leith	4:37	5.8	4:59	5.9	Walton-On-Naze	1:26	4.5	2:06	4.5

All times BST. Heights in metres

Sun rises: 6.39 am
Sun sets: 7.32 pm
Moon sets
Moon rises: 6.51 am
First quarter April 3

London 7.22 pm to 6.37 am
Bristol 8.41 pm to 6.48 am
Edinburgh 7.49 pm to 6.44 am
Manchester 7.46 pm to 6.43 am
Penzance 7.52 pm to 6.59 am

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THE TIMES 2

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft — TUESDAY MARCH 31 1998

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London pays host to Russia's heroes of the avant-garde
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SPORT
Tyson gets his teeth into new role in the ring
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TELEVISION AND RADIO
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Drugs group faces revolt over pay

Pay packages at SB start investor revolt

BY JASON NISSÉ

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM is to meet leading institutional investors in an attempt to head off a shareholder revolt over the level of pay and options packages enjoyed by the board of the drugs group.

The five leading directors picked up total pay, options and other incentives now worth as much as £25 million during 1997. The pay and incentive schemes were worth more than £10 million alone to Jan Leschly, the chief executive, during the year, taking his total over his eight years at the group to £66 million.

Other senior directors received similar awards. Hugh Collum, finance director, took home £2.27 million but was awarded further options worth as much as £4.9 million. Jean-Pierre Garnier and George Poste, two other executive directors, received options worth up to £7 million. They exercised some of these to reap a gain of £583,000 for Dr Garnier and £1.56 million for Dr Poste.

Unhappiness about these pay packages has become the focus of institutional discontent about the failure of SmithKline to agree a merger with Glaxo Wellcome despite the two having detailed merger talks earlier this year. Shareholders are also angry that SmithKline walked away from a merger with American Home Products, the US drugs group, to pursue unsuccessful talks with Glaxo Wellcome.

Though institutional shareholders approved the incentive plans which paid out so generously last year, this was when they were first put in place more than seven years ago. Investors feel that the schemes need to be changed because they have been too generous and rely too much on the award of share options, a way of remunerating directors which is out of favour with leading investors.

"We need to question the iconographic nature of some of the individuals associated with these levels of remuneration," said a leading institutional shareholder. "We need to consider what is the best way forward, but there needs to be effective scrutiny of these pay levels and a way of improving the package so it is better aligned with shareholder interests."

SmithKline has opened up talks with a number of leading shareholders to avert an embarrassing row at the annual meeting on April 28.

The row has also taken some of the heat off Glaxo Wellcome, which has been meeting with shareholders over the past few weeks and has fielded a great deal of criticism over the structure of its board, largely because Sir Richard Sykes is both chairman and chief executive.

Sir Richard, who has been a director of Glaxo for 11 years, is a relative pauper when compared with his counterparts at SmithKline. Last year he received a total package including pay, bonuses and his share of the long-term incentive scheme, totalling £3.02 million.

In addition, he exercised options that gave him a profit of £1.77 million. The total value of incentive shares which he is owed by the company is now £5.4 million.

PETER WHITE, group chief executive of Alliance & Leicester, has been granted more than £1 million in share options after the building society's conversion to a bank in April. He also received a £269,000 flotation bonus, taking his total remuneration for 1997 to £681,000, up 24 per cent over 1996. Richard Pym, group finance director, has options worth almost £750,000 at yesterday's closing price of 867p. Trevor Hilliard, managing director of retail financial services, has options worth more than £550,000.

Commentary, page 29



In the spotlight: Jan Leschly has been paid a staggering £66 million over the past eight years

Rio Tinto chief in £270,000 house rent-free

BY JON ASHWORTH

LEON DAVIS, chief executive of Rio Tinto, the world's biggest mining company, enjoys the run of a London house that would cost £270,400 a year to rent, according to the company's annual report.

The free lodging, worth £22,533 in rent per month, comes on top of a £1 million pay package. He separately has Aus$8.8 million (£4 million) stashed away towards his pension in Australia, where he formerly ran CRA, the "other half" of Rio Tinto.

Valued on the open market, Mr Davis's accommodation would cost the equivalent of £270,400 a year. Estate agents said this would give him the pick of London properties. The finger points to prime chunks of Belgravia or Knightsbridge, specifically Chester Square, Eaton Square or Phillimore Gardens.

Rio Tinto's head office is in St James's Square. The company declined to give Mr Davis's address, saying only that it involved a leasehold property in central London.

Robert Orr-Ewing, head of lettings at Knight Frank, the property specialist, said the money involved would typically cover a five-bedroom Georgian house, with 30-ft reception, garage, roof terrace or balcony, and garden.

Mr Davis,58, received a basic salary last year of £550,000. He received a further £330,000 under a long-term bonus scheme. Bob Wilson, the Rio Tinto chairman, saw his overall package fall slightly to £1.051 million (£1.177 million).

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5911.9	(-27.4)
Yield	2.07%	
FTSE All share	2774.99	(-10.45)
Nikkei	16283.04	(-476.22)
New York:		
Dow Jones	8780.13	(-15.95)*
S&P Composite	1094.02	(-1.42)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	101²⁹/₃₂*	(102⁴/₃₂)
Yield	5.99%*	(5.96%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7¹⁵/₁₆%	(7⅛%)
Lffe long gilt future (Jun)	107²⁶/₃₂	(107²⁰/₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6787*	(1.6829)
London:		
$	1.6774	(1.6829)
DM	3.0940	(3.0762)
FFr	10.3690	(10.3115)
SFr	2.5458	(2.5219)
Yen	221.64	(219.33)
£ Index	108.7	(108.2)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.8467*	(1.8265)
FFr	6.1850*	(6.1220)
SFr	1.5203*	(1.4965)
Yen	132.13*	(130.40)
$ Index	110.3	(109.3)

Tokyo close Yen 131.67

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun)	$15.05	($15.85)

GOLD

London close	$303.55	($303.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Blues

Blue Circle Industries shares fell 26p to 366½p after the group signalled difficult trading in key overseas markets. Page 28

Toast

Diageo, the world's biggest drinks company, has raised a much higher than expected £1.15 billion from the sale of its Dewar's Scotch whisky. Page 29

Home ties net United £1m a time

MANCHESTER United is now making £1 million clear profit for every home game it plays (Jason Nissé writes).

Despite only having 16 home games in the six months to January 31, compared with 18 in the same period last year, United saw its profits before transfer fees rise by £1.8 million to £17.5 million.

Revenue per match rose from £1.2 million to £1.45 million, with the club selling out all 55,300 seats at the Old Trafford ground and having installed 1,000 new executive seats.

Martin Edwards, chief executive, said United was seeking permission to increase Old Trafford's capacity by another 10,000.

It made £7.9 million from TV in the first half but merchandising revenue fell, largely because there was no new team strip on sale.

Earnings per share, before player trading, rose from 4.3p to 4.8 and the interim dividend is increased to 0.52p (0.475p).

Salas controversy, page 52

GUS awaits bid decision

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM, RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

LORD WOLFSON of Sunningdale, chairman of Great Universal Stores, will know today whether he has seen off a rival bidder for Metromail, the US data and direct marketing company.

The board of Metromail was meeting last night to decide whether to recommend the GUS $34.50-per-share cash bid, worth a total of £910 million, or a bid from American Business Information, based in Omaha, worth $35 per share, plus 0.2 ABI shares.

Despite its higher offer, ABI appeared to damage its own case yesterday when it said it was unable to meet the noon deadline set by Metromail to provide documentation and financing commitments.

GUS, which wants to buy Metromail partly because of the good fit with its own Experian-DMT credit information business in the US, said it had received clearance for the deal from the American monopolies authorities. It overcame another hurdle last week when ABI failed in its attempt to get the American courts to block its bid.

GUS, which on the home front is also mounting a hostile bid for Argos, increased its offer for Metromail last week but said yesterday that it would not be making any further increases.

Separately, Argos said it expects GUS to increase its bid soon and attacked GUS for not giving sufficient detail about its plans for Argos. GUS declined to comment on Argos's statement. Both GUS and Argos are hoping to hear this week whether the bid is to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. GUS shares fell 30p to 742p.

HSBC in Wharf move

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

HSBC HOLDINGS, the international bank which owns Midland, has unveiled plans to build a new £500 million headquarters at Canary Wharf in London's docklands.

The proposed 41-storey building will be second in height only to Canary Wharf Tower, the tallest building in Britain, and will house 8,000 HSBC employees.

In what is believed to be the largest single office letting in the UK, HSBC will acquire the property under a 999-year lease from Canary Wharf, the development company. Staff from across HSBC are expected to be relocated to the docklands site, including head office employees from Midland, the commercial and investment banks, stockbroker James Capel and the insurance business.

HSBC will dispose of its many offices across London, probably including its current headquarters on Lower Thames Street, either through sale or sub-letting. Midland's site at Poultry in the City will be retained as a flagship branch.

HSBC is the latest bank to have been lured away from the City by lower rents, sufficient space to develop large buildings and the opening of the extension to the London Underground's Jubilee line, now scheduled for next year.

The developer, Canary Wharf, said 98 per cent of its existing buildings are now let. Just five years ago the company was in administration, a victim of the recession. It is now owned by a consortium of investors led by Paul Reichmann, one of the two Canadian brothers who owned and devised the original development.

Decaux joins fray for More

THE bidding war for More Group, the outdoor advertising company, intensified yesterday when Decaux, its French rival, launched a £475 million offer (Chris Ayres writes).

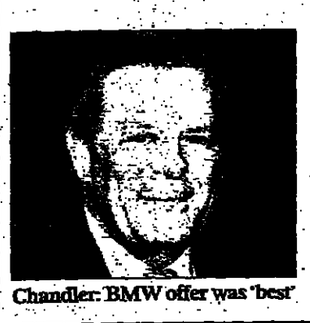
Decaux's bid tops the agreed £466 million offer made earlier this month by Clear Channel Communications by 8 per cent. It values More at £11.10 per share, compared with £10.30.

However, sources close to the US media group yesterday hinted that it would raise its offer.

The board of More yesterday withdrew their recommendation of the Clear Channel bid but failed to agree to Decaux's rival offer until regulatory issues are resolved. It also emerged that Roger Parry, chief executive of More Group and arch rival of M Decaux's, would be offered a senior position by the French group. Mr Parry will receive an £858,000 bonus related to the share price, whichever company buys More.

Market report, page 30

BMW rival may have bid more for Rolls-Royce



Chandler: BMW offer was "best"

BY ADAM JONES

BMW'S triumphant £340 million bid for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars may not have been the highest offer. Vickers, the engineering group that put Rolls up for auction last autumn, announced yesterday that a sale to the German carmaker, always the favourite in the bidding, had been agreed in principle.

However, Sir Colin Chandler, chairman of Vickers, refused to say that BMW's was the highest offer, describing the BMW pitch, which included plans to invest £1 billion and eventually double the 2,600 workforce at the factory in Crewe, Cheshire, as the "best" bid overall.

Today, Bernd Pischetsrieder, chairman of BMW, is expected to announce that Rolls-Royce will be granted more autonomy than Rover, BMW's other UK carmaker, to reflect R-R's strongly British brand and tradition. It will have its own board with non-executive directors, including a representative from Rolls-Royce plc, the aero-engine maker.

Sir Ralph Robins, chairman of Rolls-Royce plc, backed the BMW bid and was involved in a legal spat with Vickers over the aero-engine group's right to veto foreign bidders. BMW is negotiating a deal to license the Rolls-Royce name and bonnet badge from Sir Ralph's group.

One source close to the negotiations said four final bids were made, with Volkswagen the most vociferous rival to BMW. The bids were thought to include at least one offer backed by venture capital. Graham Morris said he had rejected dozens of approaches from venture capital groups and private individuals suggesting a management buyout.

Vickers said it will use the £340 million, which represents a £190 million premium to book value, to expand core activities such as defence and to return an unspecified amount to shareholders. The sale does not include a pressing operation with an estimated value of £15 million.

The BMW deal, welcomed by the AEE Union, should be completed in the summer.

Commentary, page 29

Marchpole fails to meet expectations

Marchpole Holdings, the designer and distributor of YSL and Jasper Conran menswear, floated last year, failed to reach its forecast operating profit, it revealed yesterday. Operating profit in the year to December 31 was £11.6 million compared with the £12.3 million forecast. The company blamed problems with dispatching and said profits on the £1.37 million of turnover involved will appear in its first-half results. Proforma pre-tax profit was £12.45 million and earnings per share were 7.13p. No dividend will be paid. **Tempus, page 30**

Pillar swaps

Pillar Property, the property investment and development company, has exchanged contracts to purchase Stanley Green retail park at Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire, from Scottish Life. In return, Scottish Life has acquired Halbeith retail park, Dunfermline, in a swap transaction with a total capital value of about £30 million.

T&S delivers

T&S Stores, the newsagent and convenience store retail group, unveiled record pre-tax profits of £20 million for the year to January 3, up from £17.7 million. Earnings per share grew from 17.4p to 19.7p. The company will pay a final dividend of 5.25p (4.75p), giving a full-year pay out of 8.5p (7.75p). Like-for-like sales at Dillons convenience stores are 5 per cent ahead in the first two months of this year.

Copper crisis

The slide in the copper price is hurting Antofagasta Holdings, the Chilean mining and trading conglomerate. Profits from mining tumbled by two thirds last year from £21 million to £7 million due partly to a 30 to 40 per cent fall in the copper price since June. The company is paying a dividend of 7p, up from 6.5p from earnings before exceptional items of 14.7p (19p).

Down at Heel

Dinkie Heel, the shoe part manufacturer best known for its steel toe caps, said 1997 pre-tax profits fell to £382,000 from £641,000, partly because of the strong pound. Earnings were 2.76p a share (3.81p). The total dividend is unchanged at 1.6p, with a final 1p.

Overseas problems weaken Blue Circle

By Martin Barrow

SHARES in Blue Circle Industries fell 26p to 366½p yesterday after the building materials group signalled difficult trading conditions in important overseas markets.

The company reported a strong rise in underlying profits from £297.6 million to £342 million before tax in 1997, broadly in line with City expectations. But analysts were expected to downgrade forecasts for the current year in the light of cautious trading statements on businesses in Chile and Malaysia.

At the pre-tax level, profits fell to £246.3 million, from £297.6 million, after net exceptional charges of £95.7 million. Turnover grew 7 per cent to £2.3 billion.

Results were bolstered by strong performances in the UK from the cement and consumer products businesses, which operate in the bathrooms and heating sectors and benefited from the strength of the domestic economy. There was also a good first-time contribution from St Marys, the Canadian cement manufacturer acquired last year.

In Malaysia, however, weakness in the ringgit caused profits to fall 13.7 per cent to £32.8 million, and poor cement prices affected Melon in Chile, where profits dropped 20.9 per cent to £34.1 million.

Keith Orrell-Jones, chief executive, said: "This year we expect further advances in North America — though the normal seasonal first-quarter loss by St Marys will affect half-year profits — and also in UK cement and heating. However, lower average prices in Chile and weaker demand in Malaysia are anticipated."

He added: "The overall spread of the group's operations and the intensive investment programme being implemented further to improve their performance bode well for the medium term. At the same time we continue to seek additional attractive core business growth opportunities."

Mr Orrell-Jones said Blue Circle could spend up to £500 million on acquisitions. City speculation has centred on Hepworth, a UK competitor, and Scancem, the Scandinavian cement producer that is to be sold by Skanska.

The final dividend, of 9.85p a share, lifts the total to 14.5p, from 13.25p. Earnings before exceptional items rose to 29p a share, from 23.5p.

Tempus, page 30

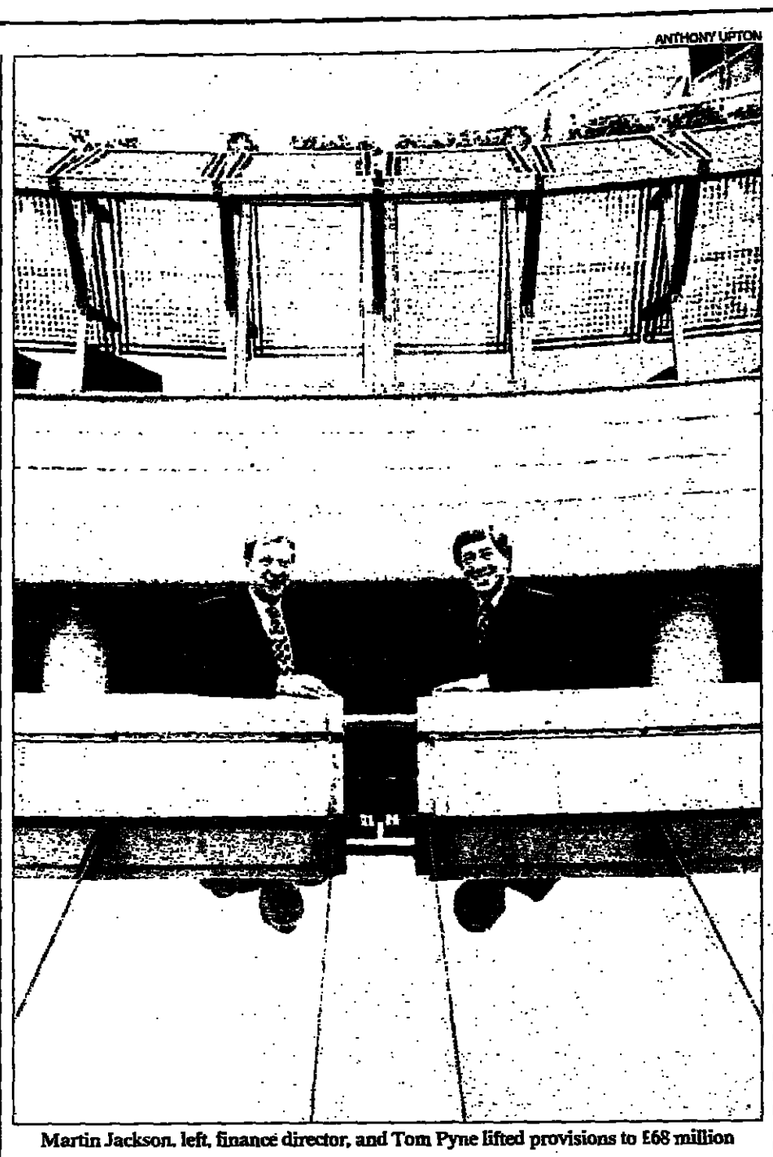
Burmah to offer new buyback

BURMAH CASTROL, the lubricants and chemicals group, plans to return £250 million to shareholders (Carl Mortished writes). The announcement lifted Burmah shares almost 6 per cent to £11.70 despite warnings that Castrol's volumes in Asia would be hurt by the slump in demand in Thailand and Malaysia.

Burmah reported a 7 per cent rise in 1997 pre-tax profits to £280 million last year. In constant currencies, the gain was 23 per cent. Castrol's volumes grew 6 per cent compared with a 1 per cent rise in lubricants volumes worldwide. Profits from the motor oil business gained 18 per cent.

The capital repayment will take the form of a share buyback or special dividend following the abolition of advance corporation tax in April next year. However, Burmah said the ACT tax burden makes any interim buyback unlikely.

Burmah is paying 40.5p in foreign income dividends, up 10 per cent on last year, after earnings of 75.5p, up 6 per cent.



ANTHONY UPTON

Martin Jackson, left, finance director, and Tom Pyne lifted provisions to £68 million

Streamline reveals takeover talks

By Chris Ayres

STREAMLINE, the road services and building products group, revealed it was in takeover talks as it reported an 11 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for last year.

The company, which has recently won three of the Government's lucrative Super Agency contracts for motorway and trunk road maintenance, described the offer as being "totally unsolicited and out of the blue". It added that it was "at a modest premium to the share price". Shares in Streamline rose 2½p to 261p yesterday, up from 145½p in January, valuing the company at about £161 million.

The identity of the bidder has not yet been revealed, although industry sources yesterday suggested Tarmac or Amey as possible contenders.

Streamline was formed in 1993 through a buyout from Shell and floated in February 1996. Terry Simpson, chief executive, said the company received the bid approach three weeks ago. "I want to see if it is in shareholders' best interests," he said.

Yesterday, Streamline reported a 2.4 per cent rise in sales for the year to December 31 from £162.2 million to £166 million. Earnings per share rose 16 per cent from 15.4p to 17.8p. A final dividend of 6.2p will be paid making a total of 9.2p, up from 8.6p.

L&M doubles provision for mis-selling

LONDON and Manchester, the insurer, more than doubled pensions mis-selling provisions to £68 million to meet the cost of completing its caseload of 7,000 victims (Gavin Lumsden writes).

London and Manchester, where Tom Pyne is chief executive, reported 1997 pre-tax profits of £44.9 million down from £51.1 million in the previous year.

However, the total dividend rises to 24.64p from 21.4p, with a 17.44p final and a 2.5p special dividend, which will be repeated in each of the next four years.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Mersey Docks stake nets Treasury £70m

GOVERNMENT coffers received a £70 million boost yesterday with the sale of its remaining interest in Mersey Docks & Harbour Company, the ports group that recently settled a two-year battle with striking dockers in Liverpool. The 14 per cent holding, of 12.4 million shares, was placed with institutions at 565p per share after a book-building operation arranged by ABN Amro Rothschild, the Government's adviser.

Mersey Docks shares rose from 573½p to 576½p. Rothschild said it was pleased with the price obtained, noting that the shares had been sold ex-dividend, without Mersey's 10p payout. The adviser's commission is likely to be about £500,000, for a morning's work.

TI deal boosts Bundy

TI GROUP, the engineer, is expanding its Bundy automotive arm with a £212 million million purchase in America. S&H Fabricating & Engineering, a privately owned group based in Florida, will give Bundy, which makes brake and fuel lines, access to new markets worth £1 billion a year. S&H fluid-carrying equipment is used in car air conditioning, oil cooling and power steering. The deal is expected to enhance TI's earnings in the current year.

MFI replaces O'Connell

MFI, the struggling kitchens, bathrooms and furniture retailer, has replaced one of its key executives in an attempt to improve its poor sales performance. The company, whose shares have halved in price since last August, has replaced John O'Connell as managing director of the retail division, with Matthew Ingle, who is moving across from Howden Joinery. John Randall, chief executive, said that Mr O'Connell will stay on in his role as deputy chairman.

Ascot return of capital

ASCOT, the engineering to chemicals group, is to return about £50 million to shareholders after raising more than £68 million from disposals. Shareholders will receive 61p per share and the company also plans to buy back 10 per cent of its equity in the market. Ascot, which bought Suter for £300 million 18 months ago, said 1997 pre-tax profits after exceptionals were £30.2 million (£5.9 million). Basic earnings per share were 30.5p (10.5p). A final 6p is due May 1, making a total 9p.

Redundancies at ABI

THE receivers of ABI Leisure, the troubled caravan manufacturer, have made almost 500 staff redundant in a bid to keep the business trading while a buyer is sought. Some 450 out of 625 jobs have gone at its plant in Beverley, Yorkshire, and half the 80-strong workforce at Immingham, Lincolnshire. Receivers from Deloitte & Touche were appointed on Friday, the day after trading in ABI's shares was halted. In December ABI reported losses of £5.6 million.

Sykes to focus on growth

ANDREW SYKES, the construction group, raised pre-tax profits 48 per cent to £11.7 million in the year to December 27 on sales up 12 per cent to £59.9 million. Earnings rose 48 per cent to 50.1p out of which the ordinary dividend rises 50 per cent to 15p. Jacques Murray, chairman, said: "We have a plan targeting those areas where opportunities for organic growth exist." The shares fell 52½p to 950p. The company is proposing to subdivide each share into five new ones.

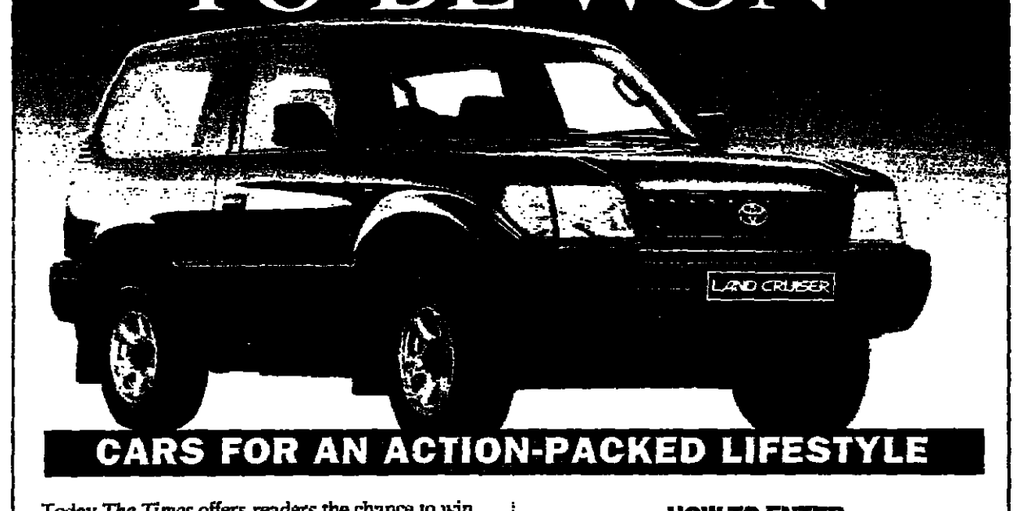
TOURIST OFFICE

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.63	2.45
Austria Sch	22.72	21.06
Belgium Fr	66.90	61.94
Canada $	2.515	2.327
Cyprus Cypf	0.943	0.871
Denmark Kr	12.38	11.47
Finland Mkk	9.92	9.17
France Fr	10.82	10.04
Germany Dm	3.25	3.01
Greece Dr	558	520
Hong Kong $	13.84	12.84
Iceland	134	114
Ireland Pt	1.28	1.20
Israel Shk	6.44	5.79
Italy Lira	3221	2984
Japan Yen	236.59	219.06
Malta	0.701	0.642
Netherlds Gld	3.672	3.377
New Zealand $	3.17	2.93
Norway Kr	13.30	12.36
Portugal Esc	328.81	308.78
S Africa Rd	9.12	8.16
Spain Pta	273.70	254.91
Sweden Kr	14.09	12.99
Switzerland Fr	2.70	2.48
Turkey Lira	410260	390382
USA $	1.787	1.644

for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

AN EXCLUSIVE PRIZE DRAW THE TIMES

FOUR TOYOTA LAND CRUISERS TO BE WON



CARS FOR AN ACTION-PACKED LIFESTYLE

Today *The Times* offers readers the chance to win one of four Toyota Land Cruiser Colorados, one of the best 4 x 4s around.

COLLECT SEVEN TOKENS AND YOU COULD WIN:

- a five-door Land Cruiser Colorado GX worth £27,374 on the road
- a three-door Land Cruiser Colorado GS worth £21,039 on the road

We have two of each model to be won with one year's road tax plus a three-year 60,000-mile warranty. Full terms and conditions were published on Monday March 23. Prices are correct at time of going to press.

The high driving position of the Colorado gives excellent visibility, something you will appreciate on a mountain track or the school run. Power-assisted steering makes manoeuvring and parking easier. And on the open road you will appreciate the responsive 3-litre turbo-diesel engine.

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HOW TO ENTER

Simply collect seven differently numbered tokens from the 19 published in *The Times* between March 21 and April 11. Token 9 is below. You can enter our free prize draw as many times as you want. The second entry form will appear on Saturday. Each entry must be accompanied by seven differently numbered tokens (a bonus token is allowed). The closing date for entries is Monday April 20, 1998.

FEATURES OF THE TOYOTA LAND CRUISER COLORADO GS AND GX

Both models have: twin airbags, electric front windows, tilt adjustable steering column, power-assisted steering, 4-speaker Sony RDS radio/cassette. The GX has all the above plus: air conditioning, electronically controlled ABS, electric external mirrors, leather covered steering wheel, alloy wheels, and a 4-speaker Sony radio/CD player.



CHANGING TIMES

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

UNILEVER N.V.
Rotterdam The Netherlands
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
On Wednesday, 6th May, 1998 at 10.30 a.m. in the "Kleine Zaal" of the "Concert- en Congresgebouw de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam

AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Annual Report for the 1997 financial year submitted by the Board of Directors.
2. Approval of the Annual Accounts for the 1997 financial year.
3. Adoption of the Annual Accounts and appropriation of the profit for the 1997 financial year.
4. Appointment of the members of the Board of Directors.
5. Appointment of Auditors charged with the auditing of the Annual Accounts for the 1998 financial year.
6. Designation, in accordance with Articles 96 and 96a of Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code, of the Board of Directors as the Company body authorised in respect of the issue of shares in the Company.
7. Authorisation, in accordance with Article 98 of Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code, of the Board of Directors to purchase shares in the Company and trust certificates therefore.
8. Corporate governance.
9. Questions.

This agenda and the Report and Accounts for 1997 are available for inspection by shareholders and holders of certificates issued by N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor at the Company's office, Weena 455, Rotterdam, and at the office of the Bank mentioned below, where copies may be obtained free of charge.

(A) Holders of bearer shares wishing to attend the meeting either in person or by proxy appointed in writing must deposit their share certificates by Wednesday, 29th April, 1998 at the Company's office or at the office of the Midland Securities Services, Client Delivery, Midland Bank plc, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA or any of its branches. Upon production of the receipt then issued to them such holders will be admitted to the meeting.

(B) Holders of registered shares for which certificates have been issued in another form and holders of booked shares wishing to attend the meeting either in person or by proxy appointed in writing must notify the Company of their intention by letter, stating the numbers of the share certificates or of the bookings for the shares, which must reach Unilever N.V., Afdeling Effecten en Coupons, Weena 455, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, by Wednesday 29th April, 1998.

(C) Holders of certificates for shares in Unilever N.V. issued by N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor of Amsterdam, "Nedamtrust certificates", wishing to attend the meeting without taking part in the voting must deposit such certificates by Wednesday 29th April, 1998 at any of the offices mentioned in (A) above. Upon production of the receipt then issued to them, such Nedamtrust certificate holders will be admitted to the meeting.

(D) If holders of the certificates mentioned in (C) above wish to exercise voting rights at the meeting either in person or by proxy appointed in writing, N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor will authorise them to exercise the voting rights in respect of the shares which are held by N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor and for which the certificates have been issued to these holders in accordance with the conditions of administration of these certificates. For such purposes holders must by Wednesday 29th April, 1998 surrender their certificates for Fl. 1 or a multiple thereof (but, in the case of certificates for 7% cumulative preference shares, representing a total nominal amount of Fl. 1,000 or a multiple thereof) to N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor, Herengracht 420, Amsterdam. The certificates so surrendered must be accompanied by a form obtainable free of charge from N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor, Amsterdam. Upon production of the receipts then issued holders will be admitted to the meeting.

Rotterdam, 31st March, 1998 — THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WESLEYAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY
Head Office:
Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AR
Established 1841

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the above Society will be held at the Head Office on Wednesday, 29 April 1998 at 12.00 noon for the following purposes:

1. Transaction of ordinary business.
2. As special business to consider and if thought fit pass the following as a Special Resolution:

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

That the Rules of the Society be and they are hereby amended as follows:

(1) By the insertion in Rule 1(1) after the definition of "principal office" of the following additional definitions: "Qualifying Date" means the Twenty-ninth day of April 1998

"Qualifying Policy" means:

(a) any subsisting policy of insurance issued prior to the Qualifying Date in the ordinary life insurance department and

(b) any subsisting policy of insurance issued prior to the Qualifying Date in any department other than the ordinary life insurance department where the premiums payable are increased on or after the Qualifying Date by an amount of £25 per month or more and

(c) any subsisting policy of insurance issued prior to the Qualifying Date in any department other than the ordinary life insurance department where an additional single premium (other than a single premium received from the Department of Social Security or any successor department) results in additional benefits being allocated to such policy with an allocation date on or after the Qualifying Date and

(d) any policy of insurance issued on or after the Qualifying Date PROVIDED THAT any policy which has lapsed and is incapable of being revived by the policyholder and has no value shall not be a Qualifying Policy.

(2) By the deletion of Rule 4 and the substitution therefor of the following new Rule 4:

"An existing member shall continue to be a member of the Society so long as he remains the beneficial owner of a Qualifying Policy and subject to hereinafter mentioned any person (whether a minor or of full age) who is entitled absolutely to the greatest interest from the Society of a Qualifying Policy of which he remains the beneficial owner in all cases whether such policy be encumbered or not shall be a member of the Society or if the greatest of such policy shall be held jointly then the greatest member of the first purpose by notice in writing sent to the Society by all such persons or failing such persons, the living persons whose interest appears first in such policy shall be a member of the Society. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Rule where the Society resolves by reason of any long term business pursuant to a scheme under Part I of Schedule 2C to the Insurance Act of 1982 neither any policy which is transferred to the Society by virtue of such scheme nor any policy issued by the Society after such transfer but in pursuance of an application made to the transferring company or body prior to the effecting of such transfer shall confer any rights of membership in the Society".

(3) By the deletion from Rule 6(1) of the words "50 or more members" and the substitution therefor of the words "100 or more members".

(4) By the deletion from Rule 13(1) of the words "50 or more members of the Society present at the meeting and together owning either alone or jointly with other persons life insurances in the ordinary life insurance department of the Society for an aggregate amount (exclusive of bonuses)" and the substitution therefor of the words "100 or more members of the Society present at the meeting".

(5) By the deletion from Rule 23 of the words "policy of insurance in the ordinary life assurance department of the Society" and the substitution therefor of the words "Qualifying Policy".

Members will be entitled only if they have attained the age of 18 to participate on policies held by them have been paid to date. Certificates for attendance, copies of the Annual Report and Accounts for 1997 and Forms of Proxy for members unable to attend are available on application at the Head Office.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
A.B. DICKEN F.C.A. SECRETARY
31 March 1998

LEGAL NOTICES
ALSO APPEAR ON PAGE 21

Rough justice from Imro

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

City regulators have immense power. There is a growing fear that Imro may be exercising that power in an unjust manner. When there is malpractice in the financial markets, it is essential that action is taken, and taken speedily. But Imro is not swift to act and its tardiness comes very expensive. Its systems appear to deny fair play to all but the wealthiest of individuals. At its worst, it seems tantamount to being tried by a kangaroo court and charged through the nose for the privilege.

Few in the City dare to voice their qualms about the system of regulation — who wants to upset the regulator? But Philip Warland, of the Association of Unit Trust and Investment Fund Managers, is a brave man. "We have had long standing doubts about elements of natural justice in Imro disciplinary procedures," he says.

Imro can be quick to put a brake on individual's earning capacity but slow to deliver a verdict on the seriousness of their behaviour and how great the penalty should be. In the meantime, costs can escalate at an alarming rate. A glance at Imro's billing system might be sufficient to deter a City spiv weighing up whether it is worth trying a bit of sharp practice.

Yet many of those who offend against Imro are likely to have been guilty of sins of omission rather than commission.

Few doubt that this is the case with Keith Percy, the man who was in charge of asset management at Morgan Grenfell when Peter Young decided to squander investors' money in a range of dodgy Scandinavian companies. Clearly Imro does not think him too dangerous to be at large, for after keeping him from employment for more than 18 months it has now allowed him to consult, on a full-time basis, for his old colleague Nicola Horlick.

Percy needs the money. Apparently, his wrangling with Imro has now run up a bill of almost £250,000 with the organisation. Should he want to contest the eventual punishment it metes out to him, he will have to go to a tribunal, and losing there can bring a bill that rarely settles below £500,000.

City organisations that fall out with Imro can afford such sums but few individuals, even those used to the highest City salaries, can risk a bill on that scale.

SB treatment that is hard to swallow

Investors who balked at the motivational requirements of Michael Grade must be looking at Jan Leschly's package in total disbelief. Yet SmithKline Beecham's response to any burgeoning protest seems to be to boot the blame straight back to shareholders. Far from contrition at the astronomical figures which may soon be gracing Leschly's bank account, the company is reminding its owners that they voted through the package in the first place.

Almost half those investors who bothered to indicate their views on Grade's contract at First Leisure voted against. Mr Leschly is not currently top of the pops among investors and their views on his potential to pocket up to £66 million might register rather higher on the disapproval scale. The annual meeting, which already promised to generate some probing questions on the failure of the merger with Glaxo, might now degenerate into an unseemly scrap over remuneration policies.

The company's argument that Leschly only stands to benefit to such an extent because of the wonderful work he has done for all shareholders has a hollow ring to it today, when many remain puzzled, and aggrieved, at the abrupt halt to the Glaxo deal. That was a merger, they were told, which would enhance shareholder value to the tune of an instant £15 billion. Amid the conflicting stories as to why the merger was aborted, there is bound to be a feeling among investors that perhaps Mr Leschly had an agenda which did not entirely tally with theirs.

It certainly seems likely that the rather less well-remunerated team at Glaxo may have been unhappy about the implications of the Leschly package. Had all gone according to plan, and the joint enterprise prospered, then there would have been less cause for complaint as his fortune escalated. But ponder the implications had Leschly and the Glaxo chairman, Sir Richard Sykes, found it impossible to work together. The cost of parting company with Mr Leschly might have made the eyes of a humble fund manager water. Even the multi-millionairess Carol Galley might have resented the sum.

Right now, she and other investors who feel deprived of the gains of the merger, or a suitable explanation for why they have not been achieved, will be on the offensive against SB. Telling them that they voted for it is unlikely to appease the simmering anger — but it will heighten the awareness with which other packages are perused.

Rolling down a one-way road

Sir Colin Chandler's efforts to stage an auction for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars have somehow lacked the vigour that enables Lord Archer to rake in thousands for a non-descript bottle of whisky at any Tory party fund-raising event. But then even the putative Mayor of London might find it hard to drum up the bidding if there is only one prospective purchaser.

After months of posturing by a collection of car lovers ranging from Mercedes Benz to the sheepskin-coated Rolls-Royce enthusiasts, the inevitable has happened and BMW has taken over the famous marque. Since BMW makes the engines for the new R-R and had made clear that this arrangement would not continue under a change of ownership, it was effectively dictating that another bidder would be faced with the disruption and extra costs of ensuring the cars would motor.

Then there was the matter of R-R plc insisting that it has a veto on who might own the R-R name. R-R plc and BMW are partners in some joint ventures, so who do we think might win the support of R-R plc? Vickers blustered about contesting the issue of the veto in the European courts, but how long was the company prepared to wait to sell R-R Motors? Given its upper hand in the negotiations, perhaps Chandler deserves credit for getting BMW to pay more than £300 million. But why did other players waste time on the charade?

Union of regret

THE CBI and the TUC remain miles apart on the issue of trade union recognition. There is but one point on which they are in agreement. Both bodies apparently thought that Tony Blair was backing their stance on the requirements for recognition. But that was before the election. Members of each organisation might feel aggrieved that their leaders did not push for clarification of Mr Blair's plans in advance of polling day.

Ulster TV in talks with TV3

Ulster Television has opened talks on a co-operation agreement with TV3, the television channel launching in the Irish Republic this autumn.

The talks are backed by CanWest, the Canadian-based international broadcaster, which has a 29.9 per cent shareholding in the ITV company and a 45 per cent stake in TV3. The new channel will cover about 90 per cent of the Republic and 30 per cent of Ulster.

Desmond Smyth, managing director of Ulster, said: "The Irish Republic is twice as big a market as Northern Ireland."

Ulster's pre-tax profits were unchanged at £8.2 million in 1997, although the 1996 figures included an exceptional profit of £800,000 on realisation of its investment portfolio. Adjusted earnings were 9.67p (8.88p) a share. The total dividend is 5.7p (5.1p), with a 3.2p final. The shares rose 5p to 232½p.

Aspen stake

Aspen, the printing and marketing communications group, has another potential suitor. Quaestus, a US investment management firm, bought a 3 per cent stake and said yesterday it is considering a formal bid. Photobition, the printing and photographic services company, made an offer last Friday.

Train orders

New train orders worth £148 million were announced yesterday. ScotRail will get 40 electric trains and nine diesel trains, while 13 diesel are to be delivered to the Central rail company. The electric trains will be built by GEC-Alsthom, and the diesel by Adtranz.

Bacardi buys Diageo brands for £1.15bn

By Dominic Walsh

DIAGEO, the world's biggest drinks company, has raised a much higher than expected £1.15 billion from the sale of its Dewar's Scotch whisky and Bombay gin brands to the Bacardi group.

The price, well above the £800 million forecast, will allow Diageo to book a profit of around £460 million after taking account of costs, tax and previously written-off goodwill of £160 million.

Observers welcomed the deal as a coup for John McGrath, chief executive of Diageo, which was forced to sell the two brands to satisfy the regulatory requirements from the Guinness/Grand Metropolitan merger.

What fooled most analysts was the level of profitability of the two brands, which contributed £95 million in 1997. Despite the sale, shares in Diageo shed 14p to 695p as the the stock went ex-dividend.

As part of the deal, Bacardi, a family-run company based in Bermuda, is acquiring four of Diageo's Scottish distilleries. However, because Dewar's is a blend of more than 30 different whiskies, it has signed a 15-year agreement under which Diageo will supply, blend and store many of the other whiskies it requires. Diageo will also provide bottling for two years.



Cheers: John McGrath, chief executive of Diageo

Bacardi, which acquired Martini & Rossi in 1993 to become the world's fourth biggest spirits company, is believed to have outbid Brown-Forman of the US, Groupe Pernod Ricard of France and a number of financial buyers. Seagram of Canada and Allied Domecq, which is thought to have offered just over £600 million for Dewar's alone, pulled out an earlier stage of the bidding.

George Reid, president and chief executive officer of Bacardi, said the acquisition demonstrated the group's ambition to remain a major force in the global spirits industry, and gave it a more rounded portfolio of brands.

Its core Bacardi rum brand is the world's biggest brand at almost 20 million cases a year. Dewar's sells 2.7 million cases while Bombay gin has reached 600,000 cases.

The deal, which is subject to regulatory approval in the US and Europe, will not leave Diageo badly placed. It still has Johnnie Walker Red Label, the world's leading Scotch, and top gin brands Gordon's and Tanqueray.

Bluebird agrees Mattel bid

By Kathy Lipari

THE takeover battle for Bluebird Toys changed direction yesterday as Mattel, the US maker of Barbie dolls, launched a £46 million bid.

Mattel's 111p-a-share offer trumped a 101p bid from Guinness Peat Group. Mattel's offer has been recommended by Bluebird's board. GPG has a 24 per cent stake in Bluebird. Bluebird shares fell 3p to 111½p.

A decision by Mattel to manufacture Bluebird's best-selling product, the Polly Pocket playsets, for North America and restrict margins for other distribution markets left Bluebird with little choice but to accept the offer. Until now, Mattel had opted to only market and distribute the products but the change in strategy would result in a "significant" reduction in profits for Bluebird.

Chris Burgin, Bluebird chief executive, said the move stems from a 1989 contract giving Mattel the option to manufacture Polly Pocket directly. He said: "The offer from Guinness Peat prompted Mattel to move to protect their existing businesses ... they are operating within their rights.

W H Smith raises hopes of windfall

By Sarah Cunningham, Retail Correspondent

W H SMITH held out the prospect of another windfall for its shareholders after announcing a bonus issue and buyback worth £250 million.

The retailer, in negotiations with Virgin about selling its 75 per cent stake in Virgin Our Price, is using the money from the sale of the Waterstone's bookshop business to return £150 million to shareholders through a bonus issue and consolidation, and £100 million through a buyback.

The £300 million sale of Waterstone's to HMV Media Group, was finalised yesterday. Richard Handover, chief executive, said: "The board will keep the further return of capital under review, depending on the timing of the planned interest in Virgin Our Price and on progress in delivering improved performance."

Shareholders receive one new, redeemable, 'B' share for each ordinary share. The 'B' shares may be redeemed in late May for 53.75p each. The company will buy back £100 million of shares with a programme of market purchases.

ICI pays $560m for US materials group

By Martin Barrow

ICI's transformation into a speciality chemicals group continued yesterday with the acquisition of America's Acheson Industries Inc for $560 million (£333 million).

Acheson, based in Michigan, a speciality materials group, will be merged with ICI's National Starch division. Acheson produces electronic materials used in the manufacture of cathode ray tube coatings, membrane touch switches for computer keyboards and polymer film for medical devices. Last year Acheson earned $46 million before interest and tax on turnover of $189 million.

The deal comes just days after ICI bought the home improvement product operations of Williams for £350 million to expand its Dulux decorative paints business.

Last year ICI began a sell-off of its bulk chemicals businesses and turned to development of paints, materials and speciality businesses, starting with the £4.8 billion acquisition of Unilever's speciality chemicals operations.

Half-time hangover at distiller

By Dominic Walsh

SHARES in Burn Stewart Distillers, already near a five-year low, lost almost a quarter of their value yesterday as the Scotch whisky producer dived into the red at half time.

An unforeseen shortage of maturing whisky stocks allied to a sharp drop in sales from Taiwan contributed to a swing from pre-tax profits of £1.8 million to a loss of £2.4 million in the six months to December 31. The shares, floated at 140p in 1991, shed 7p to 22½p.

Group turnover dipped from £32.8 million to £26.7 million, and the resultant loss per share was 2.86p, against earnings last time of 2.03p. There is no interim dividend.

Announcing plans to implement a 40 per cent price rise, Ian Bankier, managing director, gave warning that continuing price wars at the value-for-money end of the market "now threaten Scotch's existence as a premium product", and he called on competitors to follow suit.

He said that although the second half was unlikely to show much improvement, he was confident the price rise policy would work. The stock shortages and the Taiwanese difficulties had been sorted out, he added.

Tempus, page 30

English China Clays plc

(the Company)

Registered No. 154236

As a result of the recent disruption to the postal service in various parts of the United Kingdom, the Company has decided to publish a notice of this year's Annual General Meeting by way of advertisement in two newspapers with a national circulation pursuant to Article 123 of the Company's Articles of Association. Accordingly notice is hereby given that the seventy-ninth Annual General Meeting of the Company is to be held in the Great Hall, The Insurance Hall, 20 Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HY on Wednesday, 22 April 1998 at 2.30 p.m. at which the following business set forth in full in the Notice convening the Annual General meeting, to be received by Shareholders shortly, shall be transacted:

Routine business

1. To receive and adopt the report of the directors and the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December 1997 and declare a final dividend on the ordinary shares.
2. To elect Mr. J. M. Jaakkola as a director.
3. To re-elect Mr. P. Drayton as a director.
4. To re-elect Mr. M. B. Grifford as a director.
5. To re-elect Dr. C. W. Gronow as a director.
6. To re-appoint KPMG Audit Plc, the retiring auditors, and to authorise the directors to determine their remuneration.

Non-routine business

7. To grant the directors authority to allot shares pursuant to Section 80 of the Companies Act 1985 (the Act).
8. To disapply pre-emption rights pursuant to Section 95 of the Act.
9. To authorise the Company to make market purchases of its own shares (within the meaning of Section 163 of the Act).
10. To make amendments to the Articles of Association of the Company in relation to the Company's borrowing powers.

If shareholders do not receive the Notice convening this year's Annual General Meeting (which sets out in full details of the above mentioned business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting) together with the report of the directors and the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December 1997, within a few days, they are strongly advised to contact the Company to discuss alternative arrangements for delivery.

By order of the Board
P.M. Elliott Company Secretary

Notes

A member entitled to appoint and vote at this Annual General Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and, on a poll, to vote instead of him. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. Appointment of a proxy will not preclude a member from attending the Annual General Meeting and voting in person. A Form of Proxy should be received by Shareholders shortly.

Copies of the directors' service contracts are available for inspection at the Registered Office of the Company, 1015 Arlington Business Park, Theale, Reading RG7 4SA, during normal business hours on any week-day (excluding Saturdays and public holidays). They will also be available at The Insurance Hall, 20 Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HY for at least fifteen minutes prior to, and during, the Annual General Meeting.

Further notes in relation to the business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting, together with certain other information should be received by Shareholders shortly.

March 31, 1998

RESPONSIBILITY

We are a major law firm that understands the meaning of responsibility. We work on landmark cases in new and growing areas of the law. Our clients expect innovative approaches to their problems. Our people perform well under pressure.

We are one of the leading commercial law firms in the UK. Our teams are close knit, but work on a global scale. We represent major environmental bodies, advise on energy deregulation and public service issues in the telecomms industry. We are renowned for our expertise in planning, in IP issues and for our work with major public bodies. It all adds up to a great deal of responsibility.

Our clients include financial institutions in Britain, Europe, Asia and America, from local authorities to multi-national corporations, from top individuals in entertainment and sport to major construction companies. We provide a high-quality service based on a thorough understanding of a client's industry.

Our lawyers are variously described as 'meticulous and innovative', 'young, dynamic' and 'providing first-class advice'. We help our people achieve at the highest level. We're committed to their development. Our culture is professional, open door and friendly.

We thrive with the responsibility. Would you?

NABARRO NATHANSON

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www.nabarro.com

STOCK MARKET  FRASER NELSON

Talk of Sega deal breathes new life in to VideoLogic

WITH a low profile and a poor City following it is curious that 3.5 million shares of **VideoLogic** should have changed hands yesterday.

The microchip producer has been in the red since flotation, and has made no recent announcements. So why should its shares suddenly jump by 11 per cent on such heavy volume? The answer, as far as the City is concerned, is that VideoLogic is on the point of sealing a £25 million deal to supply its microchips to Sega for a new games console — and is under pressure to keep things quiet.

The deal could transform VideoLogic, up 7p to 68p, from a blue-sky technology stock to a solid profits earner — and, if the terms are even half as attractive as some analysts expect, the shares would go into orbit.

Sega must tread carefully: it cannot formally announce a new games machine without dampening the market for its current Saturn consoles. VideoLogic does not deny anything, but with 3.45 million of its shares changing hands yesterday, the City does not seem to be waiting for confirmation.

Express Dairies, the former milk division of Northern Foods, had the last laugh against its City sceptics by finishing its first solo day on the stock market at 182p — a market valuation of £523 million. Kleinwort Benson and Credit Lyonnais Laing had a target valuation below £400 million.

At close of play, **Northern Foods** adjusted by dropping 78p to 223½p — giving a combined market valuation of £1.82 billion. This means that the demerger added £65.3 million of shareholder value on day one.

The debut was given no help by market conditions. Gloom on the construction sector combined with general profit-taking to leave the FTSE 100 down 27.4 points at 5911.9.

Blue Circle was the worst performer, after fears for its Malaysia and Chile plans knocked the shares 25¾p to £366¾p. Profit-taking also depressed **Woolwich**, off 15p at 363½p, and **Schroders**, down 93p at 2307p.

There was at last some respite for **Next**, which dragged the market down last Thursday with a shock profits warning. On Friday, its shares were trading hands at 527p — a 37 per cent discount to its February high. But its vast army of private investors have kept the faith, and had been instructing stockbrokers to buy as soon as the tide looked like turning.

So when a trade went through at 542p in early morning, the small sellers piled in. The institutions followed and the shares added 15p to 550p, becoming the third best FTSE performer on the day.

It later emerged that the bottom fishers included one David Jones, chief executive, who paid £540,000 for shares when they were at 540p. Andrew Varley could afford £81,700 on 15,100 shares. Simon Wolfson, son of chairman Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, had to pay 542p for his shares and spent £704,000. If they had bought on Friday, when the price was still falling, they would have saved £12,800.

A few City anlaysts had been wondering if Lord Wolfson may buy the whole company through **Great Universal Stores**, the third worst FTSE performer yesterday after its shares dropped 30p to 742p. It is having difficulty with its £1.63 billion hostile bid for **Argos**, which is now worth £1.78 billion. The catalogue retailer let it become known over the weekend that a £350 million buyback, equivalent to 122p a share, can be expected this week. Yesterday, it said it is sure that Lord Wolfson is planning an increased offer. The shares slid a penny to 621p.

Shares of **Electronics Boutique** have been steadily rising since last year's flotation at 18p apiece, and they added a further 2¾p to 62p yesterday. The reason, which has yet to be announced, is imminent flotation of Electronics Boutique Inc (EBI) — its parent company and owner of 25.1 per cent of their shares.

EBI is floating in New York, and is expected to achieve a wonder rating. This, in turn, is expected to prompt London analysts to give its former subsidiary a re-rating.

Country Garden, formerly AIM company of the year, dropped 13½p to 237½p. The shares have risen fivefold since it joined the junior exchange three years ago and two of its directors have now called time by selling a quarter of their stake at 245p.

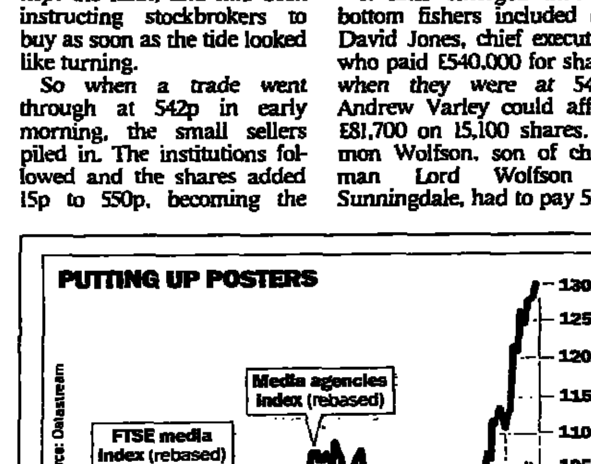
Promises of new stadium capacity at **Manchester United**, where Martin Edwards is chief executive, did little for the shares, which dropped 2p to 139½p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** It was a dull day in the futures pit and with little UK economic data due this week dealers are bracing themselves to be pushed around by American figures until the end of the week. Treasury 7 per cent 2002 cranked up one notch to £102¹⁹/₃₂. Longs fared slightly better, and Treasury 8 per cent 2021 added £¹/₁₆ to £127¹/₈.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Trading was subdued in morning session with declines in technology and oil shares offsetting gains in telephone and blue-chip stocks. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 15.95 points at 8,780.13.



Martin Edwards, centre, with David Gill, left, Man Utd finance director, and Peter Kenyon, deputy chief executive



RON ZEGHIBE, chief executive of Maiden, prefers to call his company a "media owner" rather than "billboard owner". But for the past two months, shares of billboard companies have been putting their media peers to shame.

Acquisitive Americans have instilled life into what had hitherto been the dowdiest shares in the media sector. Wall Street's poster companies enjoy ratings almost twice their UK peers and easily raise cash from eager investors. This made More Group, which owns More O'Ferrall, easy picking for rival Decaux. Maiden has jumped 32 per cent in sympathy and even Primesight, a billboard minnow, has moved from 200p to 230p in the past two months.

Analysts expect billboards to steal market share from television companies, as viewers flit from terrestrial, satellite and digital. But in the short term, the battle for More Group should prove the opening shot in what is still, in transatlantic terms, an undervalued sector.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	8780.13 (-15.95)
S&P Composite	1094.02 (-1.42)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	16263.04 (-476.22)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	11503.76 (-231.74)

Amsterdam:

AEX Index	1129.0 (-11.84)

Sydney:

AO	2741.0 (-21.7)

Frankfurt:

DAX	5009.76 (-73.40)

Singapore:

Straits	1648.56 (-5.37)

Brussels:

General	17531.94 (-55.98)

Paris:

CAC-40	3800.23 (-10.01)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	1526.80 (+6.00)

London:

FT 30	3750.3 (-18.4)
FTSE 100	5911.9 (-27.4)
FTSE 250	5528.3 (-4.9)
FTSE 350	2844.6 (-11.2)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2794.96 (-5.48)
FTSE All-Share	2774.99 (-10.45)
FTSE Non Financials	2752.65 (-3.55)
FTSE Fixed Interest	140.83 (+0.09)
FTSE Govt Secs	104.70 (+0.56)
Bargains	79977
SEAQ Volume	675.2m
US$	1.6776 (-0.0051)
German Mark	3.0945 (+0.0180)
Exchange Index	108.7 (+0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.5561
£:SDR	1.2495
RPI	160.3 Feb (3.4%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	158.5 Feb (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Advent 2 VCT	100	...
Bass B	97½	...
Eurotunnel 01/03 Wts	4½	...
Express Dairies	182	...
Guardian IT	427½	+ 1½
Hartford Grp	3	...
Monsoon	200	...
Oxford Asymmetry	449	+ 2½
Peel Hotels	114½	- 1
Pennant Intl	162½	...
Quester VCT 2	90	...
Safestore	83½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cap & Reg n/p (280)	25	...
Oxford Bio n/p (10)	5½	- 2
Paragon n/p (180)	37½	- ½
Pex n/p (3)	1¼	+ 1
Westbury n/p (235)	15	- 3½

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

COLT Telecom	1390p (+70p)
Hepworth	264p (+26p)
T&S Stores	260p (+20p)
Aspen Group	132½p (+10p)
General Cable	168p (+12½p)
Hall Eng	232p (+14p)
Autologic	367p (+22p)
Burmah Castrol	1170p (+69p)
Sage Group	1362½p (+25p)
Oriflame Int	427p (+9p)
Southnews	547p (+12p)
Doeflex	221½p (+13p)
Norbain	305p (+15p)

FALLS:

Shire Pharms	398½p (-9p)
Character Group	237½p (-17p)
Fuji Bank Y	375½p (-21p)
Andrew Sykes	950p (-52½p)
GUS	742p (-30p)
Blacks Leisure	377½p (-15p)
Adam & Harvey	337½p (-10p)
RMC Group	975p (-28p)
Candover	895p (-22½p)
Orange	379½p (-9½p)
Davis Service	391p (-9½p)
Pressac	330½p (-8p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Squaring the circle

YEAR-END profits from Blue Circle met City expectations. Unfortunately, the mix was perceived by brokers to be wrong. Heating and bathroom operations in Britain came in well ahead of target, reflecting the strength of the domestic economy and some useful gains in market share. Even the £95.7 million net exceptional charge had been factored in to most forecasts.

But overseas, alarm bells are ringing over its performance in disparate economies such as Malaysia and Chile. The net effect was a resounding raspberry from the City. Blue Circle, which had underperformed the stock market and the building materials sector over 12 months, fell 6 per cent yesterday.

It all seems so unfair. Blue Circle has come a long way since the days when it was hopelessly exposed to the vagaries of the UK construction sector. True, heavy building materials remain at its heart, but the geographic spread is diverse. The acquisition of St Marys in Canada has strengthened North American operations, where upgrades should come on stream in time to benefit from buoyant market conditions. Meanwhile, profits from heating products grew by almost 43 per cent and UK bathrooms were up a fifth.

There is £500 million in the pot for acquisitions at a time when there is no shortage of opportunity. Consolidation of the heating products sector seems inevitable, with rival Hepworth looking vulnerable, while Skanska is looking to offload its Scancem cement business.

Some uncertainties remain, but in the longer term Blue Circle should outperform its sector. This is no time to sell.

Burn Stewart

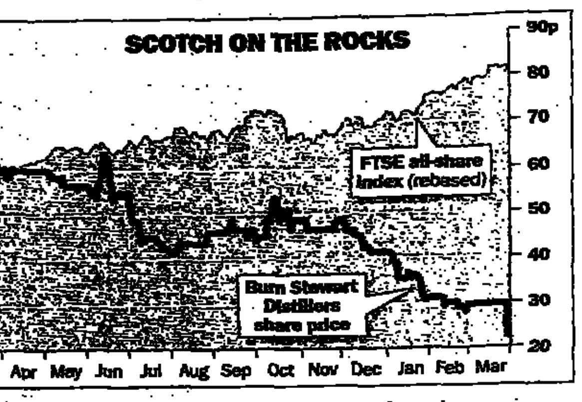
BURN STEWART shareholders could be forgiven for hitting the bottle after yesterday's interims, but the reality is they've seen it all before.

The company's shares, floated at 140p in 1991, have never recovered from the accounting debacle of a couple of years ago. A change insisted on by Price Waterhouse, its auditors, meant it had to exclude £2.3 million of profits from 1996 figures, and while much of that was subsequently recovered, the episode badly dented its reputation.

Although it has now split with PW, its maladroitness with figures remains. Yesterday's half-time losses of £2.4 million were the result, the company said, of "some abnormal influences", notably overinvestment in Taiwan, where its Scottish Leader brand is the number three behind Johnnie Walker and Chivas. On top of that, a severe and unexpected shortage of stocks meant that it had to use older (ie, more expensive) liquid for its mainstream products, cutting the margin from 25 per cent to 15 per cent.

Although both problems have been sorted, the spectre of price wars remains. Burn Stewart's answer has been to hike up prices by 40 per cent while keeping its fingers crossed that others follow.

The board's accident-prone track record gives little comfort, although the cheapness of the shares could conceivably tempt someone to put them out of their misery.



Burmah Castrol

TINKERING with the balance sheet should not fundamentally alter the market's perception of a business but it seemed to do the trick for Burmah Castrol yesterday. By any standards, Burmah is overcapitalised. While the business produces net cashflow of £419 million, it is only required to service an interest bill of £28 million, taxes and dividends of less than £200 million.

The source of this wealth, notwithstanding the chemicals recovery, is still the Castrol brand, and the promise of a £250 million capital repayment in a year's time persuaded investors to look again at its power. Market share is advancing on all fronts, despite weak demand in Europe. Even in the competitive American DIY sector, Castrol raised its share. This year, earnings growth will be bludgeoned by the Asian financial typhoon but Burmah is wisely ignoring the setback and making a big push for market share in China.

Burmah Castrol shares still look cheap, with the earnings multiple falling to 12.5 times in 1999. Investors must assume that Castrol can replicate its Vietnamese success in China and the flat-footed approach to lubricants marketing by the oil majors suggests it can succeed. The only outside risk is a sudden squeeze on the cost of base oils but with refineries laden with product and no sign of plant closures, Castrol should find plenty of cheap oil to pour into its cans for years to come.

Marchpole

MARCHPOLE has had an awkward first few weeks as a listed company, with its shares bouncing either side of the 110p issue price as investors have questioned its reliance on the YSL brand.

The investors who have stayed put will have been looking to the company's maiden results for reassurance. It was not forthcoming.

While earnings per share and post-tax profits met prospectus forecasts, operating profits have fallen behind. The company argues that this is a technicality, because of dispatch difficulties from one of its warehouses. While the problem has apparently been solved, the fact it arose in the first place does not engender confidence.

In recent weeks, Marchpole has gathered a hatful of new licences from YSL, to supply casualwear to Japan, boyswear to Europe and so on. While these offer some comfort, the company — which also distributes Jasper Conran clothing — needs to get more top-notch labels. This will spread the risk inherent to fashion businesses and make more of Marchpole's distribution expertise. Until then, the bumpy ride is likely to continue.

EDITED BY DOMINIC WALSH

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Mar	1040-1035	May	1150-1145
May	1053-1052	Jul	1168-1163
Jul	1066-1065	Sep	1180-1175
Sep	1090-1085	Dec	unq
Dec	1108-1103		
Mar	1128-1123		Volume: 2913

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1794-1780	Nov	unq
May	1820 BID	Jan	
Jul	1775-1770	Mar	
Sep	1740 BID		Volume: 9852

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	277.2-75.0
Spot: unq		Mar	281.7-78.2
May	265.3-65.0	May	285.7-82.2
Aug	269.2-68.7	Aug	291.6-88.0
Oct	273.7-72.7		Volume: 1348

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 27

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	70.22	95.16	84.18
(+/-)	+0.15	-6.33	-1.12
Eng/Wales:	70.32	95.38	84.26
(+/-)	+0.15	-6.87	-0.48
(%)	-25.0	-39.0	-10.0
Scotland:	unq	93.45	81.24
(+/-)	--	-3.89	-9.27
(%)	--	-55.0	-77.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	14.25	-0.65
Brent 15 day (May)	14.80	-0.65
Brent 15 day (Jun)	15.05	-0.60
W Texas Intermediate (May)	16.20	-0.60
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	16.45	-0.60

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	163 (+1)	166 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	142 (+1)	144 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	66 (n/c)	70 (n/c)
Naphtha	139 (-1)	142 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	137.75-38.00	Jul	144.25-44.50
May	139.00-39.25	Aug	146.50-47.00
Jun	141.00-41.25		Vol: 12981

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	14.77-14.78	Aug	unq
Jun	15.03-15.05	Sep	
Jul	15.28-15.32		Vol: 26162

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	72.25	May	72.75
Jul	74.25	Sep	72.00
Sep	74.60	Nov	74.00
Nov	76.60	Jan	78.00
Jan	78.60	Mar	78.00
Volume: 291		Volume: 0	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	55.0	57.0
May	64.5	63.0
Jun	unq	70.0
		Volume: 112

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

May 48.00-48.50

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 98			960
Apr 98	970	955	960
May 98	980	970	970
Jul 98	920	905	910
Vol: 113 lots		Open Interest: 1693	

Index 973 -9

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1729.0-1730.0	1756.0-1757.0	1205775
Lead ($/tonne)	576.00-577.00	574.50-575.50	341975
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1090.0-1091.0	1113.0-1114.0	523425
Tin ($/tonne)	5555.0-5565.0	5545.0-5550.0	40620
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1425.0-1425.5	1452.5-1453.0	1645650
Nickel ($/tonne)	5410.0-5415.0	5510.0-5515.0	64152

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
ASDA	180	17	25	30½	1	6½	9
(*136½)	200	4½	14	21	8	15	18
Abbey Nat	1150	44	107	138½	31	72	98½
(*1159½)	1200	22½	82	114	60	97	123½
All&Leic	850	32	68	88	25½	54	65½
(*861)	900	11½	45½	63½	59	82½	93
Alld Dom	550	45	63½	81	2½	22½	27
(*590½)	600	12½	35	54½	19½	45½	50
BAA	550	34½	53½	66	5	21	27½
(*578½)	600	7½	28	40½	27	45½	50½
BAT Ind	600	24	59½	70	15	38	48½
(*609½)	650	5½	36	48	44½	65	76
Barclays	1700	102	187½	232	18	72½	109½
(*1777)	1800	42	135	181½	59	118½	157
Bass	1100	64	101½	130	10½	45	58½
(*1147½)	1150	34	75½	103½	29	69	82
Boots	950	31	66	93	18	47	62
(*959)	1000	12	42½	69½	48	75	89
Br Airways	600	25	51½	69½	9	33½	42½
(*616½)	650	5½	30	46½	38	62	70
BP	850	43	77	99½	13½	37½	49½
(*880½)	900	18½	52	74	33½	62½	73½
Br Steel	140	6	12½	16	3	11½	14
(*142½)	160	1	5	8	17½	25	27
C&W	700	54½	88½	110½	5½	33½	45
(*746)	750	23	61½	88	22½	56½	69½
CU	1150	49½	114½	143	23½	66½	83½
(*1173)	1200	25½	90	118	49	91	106½
GlaxoW	1500	75½	155½	197½	23½	77	110
(*1547)	1600	28	107½	148½	73	129½	159½
HSBC	1900	85½	203	249½	38	124½	159
(*1943½)	2000	37½	154	200½	90½	173	205
Halifax	900	33½	75	99	16	45½	56
(*915)	950	11½	51	73½	43	70½	80½
ICI	1000	34½	81½	104	16½	48	69
(*1015)	1050	12½	58½	78½	44	73½	93½
Land Sec	1050	35	89½	98	19½	32	45
(*1063)	1100	13½	46	74	47½	79½	92½
M&S	550	43	58	74	2½	18	25
(*588)	600	10½	30	49	20	39½	47
Nat Pwr	600	30	56	75½	10½	38½	48½
(*613)	650	9½	34	52½	41	65½	77½
Nat West	1050	36	95½	121	25	65	87
(*1058)	1100	15	71	96	53	90	112
Reuters	645	22	58	78	18½	41½	57
(*648)	700	4	33	54	57	76	80
RylBSco	750	41	78	100½	14	39½	60
(*772½)	800	17	53	76	39½	64½	84½
Safeway	360	19	35½	45	6	23	30½
(*373½)	390	5½	23½	32½	20	38½	45½
Sainsbury	550	19½	36½	49½	9	25	30½
(*569)	600	5	18½	27½	42½	55½	59½
Shell	420	25½	38½	50	4½	18	24½
(*441½)	460	4½	20	31	22	39	45½
SmKl Bch	700	57½	97½	126½	7½	38	56
(*746½)	750	29	72½	103	25½	60½	78½
Std Char	850	45	107	142	19½	70½	93
(*873)	900	20½	83½	119	44½	96	116½
Thames W	950	25	55	74½	22	52	62
(*950)	1000	7½	33	54	54½	82½	91½
Vodafone	600	28	58½	80	13½	36½	50
(*610½)	650	8½	37½	57	44½	65	77
Woolwich	354	17½	34½	45	6	19½	25½
(*363½)	384	4½	21	32	24	35	41
Zeneca	2500	103½	222½	298½	33	118	155
(*2580½)	2600	50½	171	247½	78½	166½	203
	Series	Jul	Oct	—	Jul	Oct	—
Reed Intl	600	54	73½	—	30½	44	—
(*610)	650	32	51	—	58½	71	—
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BTR	200	15	24½	31	12	18	20½
(*203)	220	7	16½	22½	23½	29	32
Blue Circ	360	22½	39	47	23	33	40
(*366)	390	12	27	35	42	51	57½
Br Aero	1900	140½	215½	273	47	92½	124
(*1973½)	2000	86½	164½	223	91	141	173½
Br Telcm	650	34	57	67½	24½	40	50
(*651½)	700	15	35	46	55½	68½	78½
Cadbury	750	61½	87½	99½	15	28½	37
(*790)	800	32½	59½	72½	35½	50½	59½
Carlton Cms	460	28½	40½	52	15½	28	34½
(*466½)	500	10	23½	35½	39½	51	57
Energy Gp	800	43	44½	50	1	4	7½
(*833)	850	5½	8½	14½	16½	22½	22½
Gallaher	300	35	47½	53	5½	12½	18½
(*327)	330	17½	30½	37	16½	25	32½
GEC	460	26½	37	48½	18	30	34½
(*464½)	500	10	20½	32	42	53	57½
	Series	May	—	—	May	—	—
Dixons PLC	613	93½	—	—	5½	—	—
(*666½)	671	40	—	—	21½	—	—
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Dixons PLC	671	41½	69½	—	21	37	—
(*686½)	729	15½	42	—	53½	68	—
Hanson	360	22	32	41½	14½	20	27
(*363½)	390	9½	18½	29	32	36½	43
Imp Tob	420	31½	41	50½	9½	17½	23½
(*438½)	460	11½	22½	31½	30	39	44
Kingfshr	1100	60½	92	119	41	61	73
(*1120½)	1150	38½	67	93½	69½	87	98
Lasmo	280	15½	27½	33½	13½	21½	23
(*281)	300	8	19	24½	25½	33	34½
Ladbroke	330	19½	33	42	17	24½	29
(*331)	360	9	20½	29	35½	42	46
LucasVar	220	24	32	38	5½	13	13
(*237½)	240	12	21½	27½	13½	22½	27½
P&O	850	58	88	99½	16½	31	43½
(*885)	900	29½	58½	71½	37	53½	66
Prudentl	850	72½	105½	125½	25	43½	66½
(*897)	900	46½	80½	101	48½	73½	91
Rio Tinto	750	74½	103½	120	13	32	46
(*799½)	800	45	75½	95	32½	53½	68½
Redland	330	16	16½	—	½	0½	—
(*345)	360	½	0½	—	15½	15½	—
R-Royce	260	27	36½	44½	9½	17	22½
(*278½)	280	15½	26½	35	18½	25½	30½
Tesco	550	48½	67½	79	8	13	22½
(*591)	600	19½	38½	51½	29½	37½	44½
Utd Bisc	240	22½	31½	34½	5	9½	12
(*253)	260	11	20	24	13	17	21
	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
BG PLC	306	21½	—	—	19½	—	—
(*309½)	333	11½	21	27½	33	35	42
BSkyB	420	50	63	76	16	27½	35½
(*449)	460	29	43	57	36	47	55½
Br Bio	60	16	21½	25	6	11½	12
(*67½)	70	12	18	21½	12½	15	18
Centrica	110	11	15½	19	5	7½	9
(*113½)	120	7	11½	14½	10	13	14
Diageo	500	55½	70½	82½	15	25	32
(*534½)	550	27	44½	62	37½	50½	58
EMI	500	45½	60	75	27	45½	52½
(*505½)	550	28	40	54½	55	74½	77
Granada	1050	72	107½	127	54	75	86
(*1075½)	1100	45½	76	101	75½	98	111
SE	750	40	72½	84	30	37	61
(*752)	800	27	49½	62	54	74½	85½
Lloyds TSB	900	82½	115	137½	38½	62	69
(*936)	950	57	90½	113	63	87	100
Lonrho	100	14½	19½	—	4	—	—
(*109½)	110	8½	14	—	8	12	—
Norwich	460	30½	47	58	23½	37½	44
(*482½)	500	15½	31	41½	54	62	57½
Orange	360	42½	55½	67	17	25	34
(*379½)	390	30½	41	53	31½	43	49½
Railtrack	950	93½	119½	140½	45½	67½	73½
(*991)	1000	68	94½	115	63½	93	94
Scot Pwr	550	45	59½	71	35½	45½	48
(*556)	600	23½	39½	50	67½	71½	76½
Tarmac	110	12	15	16½	3½	5	7
(*115)	120	7	10	11½	8½	9½	11
Tomkins	360	28½	33½	40	13½	22	25½
(*367½)	390	12	19½	25	29½	37	42
Unilever	550	36	52	62½	18½	28	32½
(*584½)	600	15½	29½	37½	47	60	65½

March 30 Total: 12657 Calls: 5290 Puts: 6777

FTSE INDEX (*5886½)

Strike	Calls Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Dec	Puts Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Dec
5700	256½	326	388½	441	654½	46½	105	142	174	276
5750	218½	288	353	410	—	60	116	157½	192½	—
5800	178	253	323	379½	594	73½	132	173	212½	315
5850	143½	220½	296	347	—	93½	151½	199	231½	—
5900	119½	192	263	315	534	113½	171½	219½	249½	356
5950	87½	163	233½	284½	—	139	194	240½	270	—
6000	66½	140	208½	256½	473	169½	221	266	295	402
6050	49½	117½	185½	233	—	201	252½	295½	319½	—

March 30 Total: 1674 Calls: 1091 Puts: 583 *Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Jun 98	108-02	108-07	107-23	107-27	38943
Previous open interest 0	Sep 98				107.84	0
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Jun 98	107.50	107.70	107.13	107.20	98789
Previous open interest 197766	Sep 98				106.84	0
Five Year Gilt	Jun 98	102.40	102.43	102.30	103.36	1246
Previous open interest 10828	Sep 98				103.51	0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Jun 98	119.70	119.74	119.05	119.08	49255
Previous open interest 145549	Sep 98				119.42	0
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Jun 98	129.94	129.98	129.90	129.97	660
	Sep 98	129.88	129.88	129.86	129.87	15
Three Mth Sterling	Jun 98	92.48	92.48	92.47	92.48	8312
	Sep 98	92.59	92.59	92.56	92.58	8729
Previous open interest 849301	Dec 98	92.72	92.73	92.69	92.71	16839
Three Mth Euromark	Jun 98	96.335	96.335	96.305	96.310	52886
Previous open interest 2115228	Sep 98	96.185	96.195	96.140	96.145	34316
Three Mth Eurolira	Jun 98	95.44	95.45	95.37	95.38	36118
Previous open interest 927014	Sep 98	95.83	95.83	95.78	95.79	16411
Three Mth Euroswiss	Jun 98	98.42	98.42	98.34	98.39	19623
Previous open interest 119571	Sep 98	98.26	98.26	98.20	98.24	8477
Three Mth ECU	Jun 98	95.82	95.82	95.81	95.81	823
Previous open interest 43893	Sep 98	95.84	95.85	95.84	95.84	254
FTSE 100	Jun 98	5940.0	5985.0	5925.0	5953.0	13618
Previous open interest 153478	Sep 98				6031.0	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7¼ Finance Hse 8

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7⅝ Low 7 Week fixed: 7¼

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7 : 3 mth 7. Sell: 2 mth 6⅞ : 3 mth 6⅞.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	7⅛-7¼	7⅛-7¼	7³⁄₁₆-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	7½-7⅜	7⁹⁄₁₆-7⁷⁄₁₆	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½
Interbank:	7½-7⅜	7⁹⁄₁₆-7⁷⁄₁₆	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½

Overnight: open 7⅜, close 7½

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps	7⅜	n/a	7⅜	7½	7½
Sterling CDs	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜
Dollar CDs	5.58	n/a	5.59	5.63	5.80
Building Society CDs	7⁹⁄₁₆-7⁷⁄₁₆	7⁹⁄₁₆-7⁷⁄₁₆	7⁹⁄₁₆-7⁷⁄₁₆	7⁹⁄₁₆-7⁷⁄₁₆	7⁹⁄₁₆-7⁷⁄₁₆

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⁹⁄₁₆-5⁷⁄₁₆	5⁹⁄₁₆-5⁷⁄₁₆	5⁹⁄₁₆-5⁷⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½	5⅝-4⅝
Deutschemark:	3⅛-3	3⅛-3⅛	3⁵⁄₁₆-3⅛	3⁵⁄₁₆-3⅛	4-3
French Franc:	3⅝-3⅜	3⅝-3⅜	3⅝-3⅜	3⅝-3⅜	3⅝-2⅝
Swiss Franc:	1⅜-1¼	1⅜-1¼	1⅜-1¼	1⅜-1¼	1½-½
Yen:	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $302.20-302.50 Close: $303.30-303.80 High: $302.80-303.30

Low: $301.70-302.20 AM: $302.30 PM: $301.85

Krugerrand: $307.00-309.00 (£185.00-187.00)

Platinum: $406.75 (£241.60) Silver: $6.415 (£3.815) Palladium: $270.00 (£160.40)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 30	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.4735-3.4898	3.4861-3.4886	1⅛-1⅛pr	3⅛-3⅛pr
Brussels	63.550-63.890	63.790-63.890	25-20pr	63-56pr
Copenhagen	11.742-11.806	11.791-11.800	¾-¼pr	1¾-1pr
Dublin	1.2247-1.2344	1.2301-1.2325	20-12pr	64-54pr
Frankfurt	3.0810-3.0967	3.0927-3.0954	1¼-1pr	3-2¾pr
Lisbon	315.49-317.18	316.73-317.05	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Madrid	261.50-262.78	262.45-262.70	72-61pr	2?0-187pr
Milan	3048.7-3052.7	3048.7-3052.7	65-48pr	??-159pr
Montreal	2.3811-2.3920	2.3844-2.3863	0.56-0.51pr	[illegible]-1.03pr
New York	1.6770-1.6828	1.6770-1.6778	0.265-0.245pr	0.7?-0.74pr
Oslo	12.671-12.726	12.706-12.720	¼-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Paris	10.323-10.379	10.363-10.375	¼-¼pr	1-¾pr
Stockholm	13.244-13.313	13.286-13.308	¼-¼pr	1-¾pr
Tokyo	221.35-222.34	221.51-221.78	1¼-1¼pr	3⅜-3⅛pr
Vienna	21.676-21.785	21.757-21.777	¼-¼pr	1¼-¾pr
Zurich	2.5278-2.5472	2.5443-2.5469	1¼-1¼pr	3⅛-3⅛pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.5060-1.5071
Austria	12.94-12.95
Belgium (Com)	37.93-37.98
Canada	1.4224-1.4229
Denmark	7.0145-7.0165
France	6.1642-6.1652
Germany	1.8395-1.8400
Hong Kong	7.7465-7.7475
Ireland	1.3640-1.3660
Italy	1813.1-1814.6
Japan	131.90-132.00
Malaysia	3.6050-3.6250
Netherlands	2.0740-2.0750
Norway	7.5550-7.5600
Portugal	188.40-188.50
Singapore	1.6035-1.6065
Spain	156.17-156.20
Sweden	7.9001-7.9078
Switzerland	1.5139-1.5149

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6808-1.6835
Australia dollar	2.5309-2.5343
Bahrain dinar	0.6275-0.6415
Brazil real*	1.9061-1.9091
China yuan	13.799-14.099
Cyprus pound	0.887-0.906
Finland markka	9.275-9.416
Greece drachma	529.0-539.5
Hong Kong dollar	13.0242-13.0344
India rupee	65.89-67.19
Indonesia rupiah	unq
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5085-0.5195
Malaysia ringgit	6.0695-6.0903
New Zealand dollar	3.0305-3.0363
Pakistan rupee	72.70 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.060-6.195
Singapore dollar	2.6968-2.7019
S Africa rand (com)	8.302-8.471
U A E dirham	6.115-6.251

Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,300	Land Secs	428
AMVESCAP	1,100	Legal & Gn	7,800
ASDA Gp	3,300	Lloyds TSB	5,500
Abbey Ntl	1,900	LucasVarity	1,600
Allnce & Leic	1,500	Marks Spr	3,800
Allied Dom	888	NatWst Bk	3,100
AB Foods	300	Nat Grid	1,200
BAA	826	Nat Power	6,000
BAT Inds	4,900	Next	7,800
BG	5,200	Norwich Un	2,300
BOC	881	Nycomed Amr	195
BP	5,800	Orange	2,200
BSkyB	1,100	P & O	1,800
BTR	6,500	Pearson	1,100
BT	8,100	PowerGen	635
Bk of Scot	3,400	Prudential	2,800
Barclays	2,800	Railtrack	719
Bass	1,400	Rank Group	1,900
Billiton	1,200	Reckitt Col	598
Blue Circle	5,600	Reed Intl	4,400
Boots	1,200	Rentokil	4,500
BAe	1,000	Reuters	4,800
BA	2,100	Rio Tinto	1,500
Brit Energy	1,200	Rolls Royce	3,600
British Land	1,100	Royal & Sun	1,900
Brit Steel	5,400	Royal Bk Sct	1,100
Cable Wire	3,800	Safeway	1,800
Cadbury	3,400	Sainsbury	1,700
Carlton Cms	6,500	Schroders	243
Centrica	3,600	Scot & New	810
Cm Union	965	Scot Power	1,500
Compass	1,700	Svrn Trent	320
Diageo	5,600	Shell Trans	12,800
EMI	2,300	Siebe	1,100
Energy Gp	2,300	SmthKl Bch	7,000
Enterpr Oil	802	Smiths Inds	263
GKN	360	Stan Chart	7,300
GRE	1,900	Sun Life	147
GUS	1,900	Tesco	5,000
Gen Acc	791	Thames W	705
Gen Electric	5,000	Tomkins	2,500
Glaxo Well	9,000	Unilever	3,500
Granada	1,600	Utd Utilides	1,500
HSBC	2,900	Utd News	1,100
Halifax	3,200	Vodafone	6,200
Hays	1,100	Whitbread	1,400
ICI	2,500	Williams	1,600
Kingfisher	1,500	Wolseley	1,600
LASMO	1,100	Woolwich	9,100
Ladbroke	2,800	Zeneca	1,200

WALL STREET

	Mar 30 midday	Mar 27 close
AMP Inc	42¾	43
AMR Corp	138¼	139⅛
AT & T	66⅛	66¼
Abbott Labs	74⅛	75¼
Advanced Micro	25¼	24⅛
Aetna Life	81⅞	81¼
Ahmanson (HF)	78⅛	80¼
Air Prod & Chem	81¼	82
AirTouch Comm	48¼	48¼
Albertson's	50¼	50⅛
Alcan Aluminum	31⅛	32¼
Allied Signal	41½	42⅛
Alum Co of Am	69⅛	70⅛
Amerada Hess	59⅛	59⅛
AEP	49⅛	49¼
Amer Express	91½	93⅛
Amer Genl Corp	62¾	63½
Amer Home Pr	90¼	90
Amer Intl	124⅛	124¼
Amer Stores	25⅛	25⅛
Amer Standard	46¼	46⅛
Ameritech	48⅛	48
Amgen	59⅛	60⅛
Amoco	86½	85⅛
Andrew Corp	19⅛	19¼
Anheuser-Busch	46¼	46¼
Apple Computer	26⅛	27⅛
Archer Daniels	21¼	21¼
Armco	6	5¾
Armstrng Wrld	87¾	86⅛
Asarco	26	26¼
Atl Richfield	78¾	78⅛
Atmel Corp	14⅛	14⅛
Auto Data Pro	67¼	68⅛
Avery Dennison	52⅛	52
Avon Products	78⅛	79⅛
Baker Hughes	40⅛	41⅛
Baltim Gas & El	32¼	32⅛
Banc One	61⅛	62
BankAmerica	82⅛	83¼
Bank of NY	62¾	61¼
Bankers Tr NY	116¼	117⅛
Bausch & Lomb	45⅛	45⅛
Baxter Intl	57¼	58¼
Becin Dickinsn	68¼	68¼
Bell Atlantic	102⅛	101
BellSouth	64⅛	63⅛
Best Foods	115¼	115⅛
Black & Decker	52½	53
Block (H&R)	47⅛	46⅛
Boeing	50¼	51⅛
Boise Cascade	36⅛	35⅛
Boston Scien	67¼	67⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	102¼	101¼
Browning Ferris	32¼	32¼
Brunswick	34¼	34¼
Burlington Nthn	104⅛	106¼
CMS Energy Corp	46⅛	46⅛
CSX	59¼	59⅛
CBS Corp	33⅛	32¼
Campbell Soup	59⅛	59⅛
Carolina Pwr	44⅛	44⅛
Case Corp	69¼	70¼
Caterpillar	55⅛	55¼
Central & SW	27⅛	27¼
Champion Intl	55½	55⅛
Chase Manhat	137½	134⅛
Chevron Corp	82¾	82⅞
Chrysler	42¼	41⅛
Chubb Corp	77¼	79
Cigna Corp	205⅛	208¼
Citicorp	141¼	141⅛
Clorox	85⅛	85
Coastal Corp	65⅛	65¼
Coca Cola	78	75⅛
Coca Cola Ent	37⅛	36¼
Colgate-Palm	86⅛	86¼
Columbia Energy	77¼	77⅛
ColumbiaHCA	31⅛	30⅛
Compaq Comp	26⅛	26⅛
Comp Ass Int	57¼	56¼
Conagra	31⅛	32⅛
Cons Edison	45⅛	45⅛
Cons Nat Gas	56¼	56⅛
Cooper Inds	57⅛	59⅛
Corestates	90¼	91⅛
Corning Inc	43⅛	43⅛
C'wide Credit	53¼	53¼
Crestar Finl	58¼	58⅛
Crown Cork	54	53⅛
Dana Corp	57¼	58
Dayton Hudson	87⅛	87⅛
Deere	61¼	62¼
Delta Air Lines	116⅛	115¼
Deluxe Corp	33	33¼
Digital Equip	52⅛	51⅛
Dillard Dept St	37⅛	36⅛
Disney (Walt)	107⅛	107⅛
Dominion Res	41	41
Donelley (RR)	40⅛	40¼
Dover Corp	37⅛	37¼
Dow Chemical	95⅛	95⅛
Dow Jones	53	53
Dresser	48½	49⅛
Duke Energy	58⅛	59⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	33¼	33
Du Pont	68¼	68¼
Eastman Chem	66⅛	66¼
Eastman Kodak	64¼	63¾
Eaton Corp	95¼	95¼
Edison Intl	29¾	29⅛
Elec Data Sys	46⅛	46¼
Emerson Elec	63⅛	63⅛
Engelhard Corp	19¾	19¼
Enron Corp	46¼	46¼
Entergy	29¼	29⅛
Ethyl Corp	8	8⅛
Exxon	66⅛	67¼
FDX Holding	67⅛	68⅛
FMC Corp	77⅛	78
FPL Group	62¼	63
Fifth Third Banc	85¼	85¼
Fleet Finl Grp	82¼	83⅛
Fluor Corp	49⅛	50⅛
Ford Motor	64¼	64⅛
Fort James	47⅛	48⅛
Fortune Brands	40¾	40⅛
Franklin Res	53⅛	54⅛
GTE Corp	59¼	58⅛
Gannett	70⅛	70¼
Gap Inc Del	45⅛	44⅛
Gateway 2000	47¼	47¼
Gen Dynamics	86¼	86⅛
Gen Electric	84¼	83⅛
Gen Mills	75	75
Gen Motors	68⅛	68⅛
Gen Reinsurance	221⅛	221¼
Gen Signal	46¼	46¼
Genuine Parts	37⅛	37⅛
Georgia Pac	66¼	65⅛
Gillette	120¼	119⅛
Glaxo Welc ADR	51¼	51¼
Goodrich (BF)	52⅛	53¼
Goodyear Tire	74⅛	74⅛
Great Lakes	53¼	53¼
Halliburton	50¼	52
Harcourt General	55⅛	55⅛
Heinz (HJ)	58	57⅛
Hercules	48¼	48⅛
Hershey Foods	71	71¼
Hewlett Packard	62⅛	63
Hilton Hotels	31⅛	32¼
Home Depot	68⅛	66⅛
Homestake Mng	10¼	10¼
Honeywell	81	81¼
Household Intl	135⅛	136⅛
Houston Inds	28⅛	28⅛
Humana	25⅛	24⅛
Ikon Office	34	33
Illinois Tool	63⅛	63¼
Illinova	29¼	29¼
INCO	18¼	18⅛
Ingersoll Rand	47¼	47¼
Inland Steel	27⅛	27¼
Intel Corp	77⅛	79⅛
IBM	103⅛	104⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	47⅛	47
Intl Paper	48¼	48⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	72⅛	71⅛
Kellogg	43⅛	42⅛
Kerr-McGee	70¼	70¼
Kimberly-Clark	50⅛	49¼
Kmart	16⅛	16¼
Knight-Ridder	59¼	55⅛
Lilly (Eli)	58¼	60¼
Limited Inc	28¼	29⅛
Lincoln Nat	84¼	85⅛
Litton	57¼	58¼
Liz Claiborne	51⅛	51⅛
Lockheed Martin	111⅛	114
Louisiana Pac	23¼	22¼
MCI Comm	50⅛	49⅛
Manpower Inc	39⅛	39¼
Marriott Int	36⅛	79⅛
Marsh & McLen	86¼	87¼
Masco Corp	58⅛	58⅛
May Dept St	62⅛	62
Maytag Corp	47¼	47¼
McDonalds	56⅛	57⅛
McGraw Hill	74⅛	75¼
Mead Corp	35⅛	35¼
Medtrust Corp	30⅛	30⅛
Medtronic	52¼	52⅛
Mellon Bk	62½	63⅛
Merck Inc	127¼	128⅛
Mercury Fin	0⅛	0¼
Merrill Lynch	82¼	85¼
Microsoft	88¼	88¼
Minnesota Mine	94¼	94¼
Mirage Resorts	24⅛	24⅛
Mobil Corp	77	77¼
Monsanto	50⅛	51⅛
Morgan (JP)	133	135⅛
Motorola Inc	57¼	57¼
Mylan Labs	23⅛	23⅛
Natl Semi	20⅛	20⅛
Natl Service Ind	57⅛	57⅛
Navistar Inr	35⅛	34⅛
NY Times A	67	65⅛
Newmont Mng	31⅛	31¼
Nike B	43¼	43⅛
NL Industries	17¼	17¼
Nordstrom	63¼	61¼
Norfolk Sthrn	37¼	38
Nthn State Pwr	58	58
Norwest Corp	40¼	41⅛
Occidental Pet	29¼	29⅛
Office Depot	29¼	30⅛
Oracle	31⅛	31¼
Orgn Energy Co	25⅛	25
Owens Corning	35⅛	35¼
PPG Industries	66	66¼
PMI Group	83	83¼
PNC Bank	58⅛	58⅛
PP&L Res	23¾	23¼
Paccar Inc	61⅞	62¼
Pacificorp	23¼	23⅛
Pac Enterprises	40⅛	40¼
PaineWebber	41¼	42¼
Pall Corp	21⅛	21⅛
Parker Hannifin	51⅛	51⅛
Peco Energy	21⅞	21⅛
Penney (JC)	74¼	74⅛
Pennzoil	64¼	65⅛
Pepsico	42⅛	42⅛
Pfizer	97	94⅛
Pharm & Upjhn	43⅛	44
Phelps Dodge	64¼	64¼
Philip Morris	43¼	42⅛
Phillips Pet	50⅛	51
Pitney Bowes	49¼	49⅛
Polaroid	44⅛	44⅛
Procter & Gmbl	84⅛	83¼
Providian	57¼	58
Pub Serv E & G	37⅛	37⅛
Quaker Oats	56¼	57⅛
Ralston Purina	105¼	105⅛
Raychem Corp	41¼	42⅛
Raytheon B	59¼	60⅛
Reebok Intl	30⅛	30⅛
Reliastar Fin	45⅛	46¼
Reynolds Metals	62¼	63⅛
Rockwell Ind	57⅛	57⅛
Rohm & Haas	102¼	102¼
Royal Dutch	57¼	57¼
Rubbermaid	28⅛	28⅛
SBC Comms	43⅛	43⅛
Safeco Corp	54⅛	53⅛
St Paul's Cos	89⅛	90
Sara Lee Corp	62⅛	62
Schering Plough	81⅛	81¼
Schlumberger	76⅛	76¼
Seagram	38¼	38⅛
Sears Roebuck	56¼	56⅛
Shell Trans	44¼	44⅛
Sherwin Wllms	34¼	34¼
Silicon Graphics	13⅛	13¼
Snap-On-Tools	45	45
Southern Co	27¼	27¼
Southtrust	41⅛	42
Sprint Corp	69¼	68⅛
Stanley Works	54	52¼
Starwood H & R	54	57¼
Sun Company	40¼	41¼
Sun Microsys	41⅛	41¼
Suntrust	74¼	75⅛
Supervalu	46¼	46⅛
Synovus Fin	37	36¼
Sysco Corp	26⅛	26
TRW Inc	54¼	54⅛
TIG Hldgs	26	26¼
Tandy Corp	46¼	46⅛
Temple Inland	63⅛	63⅛
Tenet Healthcare	37¼	37¼
Tenneco	42⅛	42⅛
Texaco	60⅛	60
Texas Inst	57⅛	54¼
Texas Utilities	38¼	39⅛
Textron	75¼	76⅛
Thermo Elect	39⅛	39
Time Warner	72⅛	72⅛
Times-Mirror A	63⅛	63⅛
Timken	33¼	31
Torchmark	47	46
Toys R Us	30¼	31¼
Transamerica	117⅛	131¼
Travelers	60⅛	62
Tribune	69¼	69⅛
UST Inc	32¼	32¼
US Bancorp	122	121¼
UAL	91¼	90¼
Unicom	67¼	66¼
US Inds	28¼	28⅛
US West Comm	54⅛	54⅛
US West Media	34¼	35¼
USAirways Group	71	71⅛
USX Marathon	37⅛	37⅛
Unicom	34¼	35¼
Unilever NV	67⅛	68¼
Union Camp	60⅛	60¼
Union Carbide	48⅛	49¼
Union Pacific	54⅛	55¼
Unisys Corp	18⅛	19⅛
USF&G Corp	24¼	24¼
United Tech	90⅛	93¼
Unocal Corp	38¼	38⅛
VF Corp	51¼	52¼
Wal-Mart Stores	49⅛	49¼
Warner-Lambert	167⅛	163¼
Waste Mngmt	30⅛	31¼
Wells Fargo	331¼	331¼
Weyerhaeuser	56¼	56⅛
Whirlpool	67⅛	68¼
Whitman	19⅛	19
Winn Dixie	49⅛	50¼
Worthington	39	38
Woolworth	25⅛	26
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	81¼	81
Xerox	102¼	104
Xilinx Inc	38⅛	37

Government has shed financial naivety

To the private sector, the State is some kind of slightly batty country cousin, desperately trying, and failing, to keep up with the streetwise ways of the real world. Sure, the City is prepared to indulge some of the Government's curious financial behaviour — so long as it means fat contracts and low taxes — but at heart it believes that the State will always remain quaintly inefficient and a little backward.

It is rare, therefore, to find the Government being complimented on having stolen a lead on the private sector. When the compliment comes from Guy Hands, head of Nomura's Principal Finance Group and the epitome of a private sector man, the State could be forgiven for feeling flattered. Mr Hands has dazzled the City with his innovative mix of high finance and sheer chutzpah. In three years he has built up a property empire for Nomura worth about £9 billion, earning himself a reputed £40 million last year.

The success of Mr Hands has been built upon his method of purchasing and then securitising property assets — now widely imitated across the banking sector.

For the Government, principal finance has a number of obvious attractions. But the Government's embrace of the virtues of principal finance was not entirely voluntary. The political consensus on tax and spending has forced Government to look for other ways to fund its programmes.

In contrast, the corporate sector has had a relatively easy ride in recent years. The economic upswing has removed the pressure for companies to think too deeply about whether they are making the most of their resources. The point made by Mr Hands is come the inevitable downturn, corporations will have to review how they employ assets.



ALASDAIR MURRAY

Some companies have shifted assets off-balance sheet, but mainly motivated by accounting reasons. Mr Hands believes that the Government has demonstrated the benefits of a far more asset-efficient approach, which could set the trend for the corporate sector.

Yet, the Government's own experiments with principal financing are still a long way from being complete. It has signed principal finance deals valued at around £8 billion to date — equivalent to the total for all the deals concluded under the Private Finance Initiative. PFI still seems to have the heavyweight political backing, but it is principal financing that is more likely to become as important to this Government as privatisation was to the Tories in the 1980s.

The thrust of the National Asset Register project is that the Treasury accepts it has no need to be a major property owner. This effectively puts several hundred billion pounds of assets up for auction.

The Treasury, at present, seems to have adopted a softly-softly approach to making more disposals through principal finance. The £5 billion sale of 700 DSS properties to a consortium led by Goldman Sachs is due to be completed tomorrow. The feeling is that Gordon Brown wants to see if the complex service contract in place for the management of the offices functions properly before releasing the floodgates for other deals.

However, Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, is already preparing the case for privatising 750 buildings owned by Customs & Excise and the Inland Revenue. After this deal is formalised, the Government is expected to turn its attention towards the portfolio owned by the Department of Education and Employment.

But it is the use of principal finance in larger infrastructure projects that offers the Government most room for future innovation. At the moment, the Government seems determined to use PFI projects for major infrastructure investment because it has the virtue of keeping the huge investment off the Government's balance sheet.

Britain does not have the happiest history of funding large-scale projects, with the Channel Tunnel rail link only the most recent example. The Government may find that there is better value in preserving control of the build stage and then selling off the asset to recoup costs and introduce private sector management. A virtuous circle could be created where the Government is funding new projects by the sale of existing assets.

The Treasury has expressed interest in pursuing this. A thorough review would finally help to convince the City that in its desire to reconcile its budgetary needs, the Government can no longer be regarded as financially naive.

Can Blair's new Labour still do business with the unions?

Christine Buckley on the heated battle to control the workplace



John Monks, of the TUC, left, and Adair Turner, of the CBI, are locked in a battle for Tony Blair's backing

The biggest test of strength between Labour's old ties with the trade unions and its new, keenly fostered relationship with business is under way. The battleground is union recognition. The issue is only weeks away from resolution after a series of last-minute meetings such as that held yesterday between the Prime Minister and the unions.

The Government's decision on how recognition will work follows fruitless negotiations between the TUC and the Confederation of British Industry. The talks were encouraged by the Government — it was the only issue in Labour's manifesto that caused substantial concern among the party's new business friends. However, with two such fundamentally opposed groups, no-one ever expected them to yield anything productive.

The ball is firmly in the Government's court. The way it is played will be a sign of how far Labour is prepared to embrace business at the expense of its traditional paymasters. The unions see the right to recognition as a fundamental pledge of Labour's election manifesto, an unequivocal promise that should be implemented by conventional voting procedures.

Business sees recognition as an issue that threatens a return to the days of industrial unrest and union power unless the process is curbed and managed. All rests on implementation. The TUC wants recognition to be granted where the majority of a workplace ballot supports it. The CBI, where Adair Turner is director general, not only wants the requirement to be a majority of all workers — meaning that those who do not vote will be counted as voting against recognition — but also seeks a pre-ballot vote, one to secure a ballot in the first place, that should win 30 per cent support.

The Government will most likely attempt to strike a balance by setting a threshold for voting turnout or suggesting that a majority vote be much higher than 51 per cent.

The TUC has rebuffed all talk of compromise on these lines but it is the most obvious way out of the deadlock. The threshold and majority will be crucial factors. A variety of proposals are circulating between Downing Street, the Department of Trade and Industry, the CBI and the TUC.

What is defined as a workplace — or bargaining unit — is also at issue. The CBI wants the bargaining unit that could benefit from recognition to be decided by the employer and it wants companies that employ fewer than 50 people to be excluded from having to recognise unions at all. For the TUC, these two conditions are as unacceptable as the difference over voting requirements. The determination of the bargaining unit is inextricably linked to the issue of support for recognition in a ballot.

If an employer were free to determine which part of the factory or office should constitute a workplace then that employer would be able to determine which was the more likely arrangement to get a "no" vote. For example it could extend the bargaining unit throughout the whole operation, lumping together different types of employee with different needs and aspirations thus making the union's task of selling its message that much harder. Alternatively, in companies where the majority of workers are more homogenous the employer could choose to establish a number of bargaining units in an attempt to dilute a potentially strong representation.

The size of a company obliged to recognise unions is similarly crucial. If the CBI were to win the argument and companies with fewer than 50 workers were excluded that would mean 99 per cent of British companies would be unaffected by the legislation.

The Government will set out the means of implementation in a White Paper expected to be published in May. It cannot please both sides even though both are adamant that their interpretation is the most logical of the 22 words that form the crux of Labour's pledge on recognition.

John Monks, the moderate general secretary of the TUC, has said he was bewildered that Labour should have opened up the debate after taking power, believing the issue to have been clear cut. The CBI maintains that it never doubted its own interpretation although it denies having been steered in such a direction by meetings with Labour.

It is already clear that Mr Blair is willing to back the spirit of the CBI's stance far more readily than that of the unions, prompting some aggrieved union leaders to threaten an emergency meeting of Congress. That union leaders have been unhappy after their meetings with the Prime Minister is an understatement.

An obvious endorsement of the business position could also lead to widespread protests on the scale shown by the countryside supporters, believes John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB. Mr Edmonds, not a man given to rash, government-baiting statements, has had his warning echoed by other key leaders, including Bill Morris, general secretary of the T&G, and Roger Lyons, head of the MSF.

After yesterday's meeting, the TUC will next see Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade. The DTI is still officially in charge of the Fairness at Work White Paper. But as with other policies, Downing Street will take the initiative.

In making his decision, Mr Blair will have to grapple with more than the competing interests of business and the unions. He also faces considerable opposition from within his Cabinet and from a groundswell of MPs who had not expected recognition to come with an armful of qualifications.

It is believed that within Cabinet Mr Blair is being urged to pull back from strong support of the employers' position by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister; David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary; Clare Short, International Development Secretary; Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary; Chris Smith, Secretary for Culture, Media and Sport; and Ron Davies, Welsh Secretary. Mrs Beckett is thought to be sympathetic to the union position and the TUC's supporters have also been lobbying Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, who has maintained strong links with the unions.

Mr Blair could win the argument against the opposition he has in the Government but it will not be without disaffecting yet more of Labour's traditional base. The TUC will remind him that, under its calculations, if Labour had been subjected to the stringent voting requirements demanded by the CBI then they would have only 14 MPs.

MARKETING

Abject failure to make use of annual reports

Every listed company is required by law to produce an annual report. Few like having to do so. Such is the way in which one of the most underrated of communication tools is regarded.

Mention the subject in most companies and a collective groan can be heard. The reception is not much better among those who receive it. Yet each year nearly 3,000 companies spend an estimated £20 million on annual reports. Some companies spend as much as £500,000 and yet the annual report continues to be treated as an obligation rather than an opportunity. As one chief executive rather glumly put it: "The whole thing could be in Latin because no one really reads it."

Some companies have been quick to spot the potential for marketing the corporate brand. When he joined Asda as chief executive Archie Norman recognised this when he unveiled his three-year recovery plan in 1992. The transition from retail basketcase to City darling is consistently chronicled in the pages of successive annual reports.

Denise Jaegger, company secretary, says: "Unlike the annual reports of many FTSE 100 companies we try to convey the Asda values and personality on every page because we feel that's what makes us different from our competitors."

However, too often companies slip into a well-rehearsed formula (chairman's review, pat everyone on the back, lip service to environment and community, etc) which fails to convey anything more than the figures. Peter Sheppard, chairman of Sheppard Day, which produces annual reports, says: "Quite often the person briefing the designers is the finance director or someone without any real marketing experience. They may not actually know what it is they are trying to do with the report. If it fails to reflect the character of the company then it has failed."

Some of these problems stem from the fact that many companies seem to suspend their everyday judgment when preparing annual reports. Simon Carter, a director of Thumb, a design and communications agency, says: "There isn't a completely different set of rules when it comes to reading an annual report. People are still drawn to the pictures and the headlines and they read it in much the same way as they read a newspaper or magazine."

It is no coincidence then that it was a book publisher, Hodder Headline, that won the Annual Reports and Accounts Awards for the second year running. There are encouraging signs, however, that companies are now putting the annual report at the heart of their marketing strategy.

Some companies, such as Bass, have cut their cloth to meet the demands of private shareholders and institutional investors. There are now two reports, entirely different in tone and content. One contains a glossy snapshot of models enjoying Bass products and services accompanied by text that reads more like a brochure; the other gives a more sober and thorough account of each operating division.

Smaller companies, too, are using annual reports in a variety of ways. IBC used to encounter problems communicating the breadth of its activities to analysts. Traditionally known just for its conferences, analysts all but ignored its publishing activities, which contribute over a quarter of its turnover.

Jim Wilkinson, finance director, says: "Analysts used to ask us how many conferences we were running that year and then put out a forecast that wasn't telling the whole story." To counter this IBC commissioned an annual report — delivered to analysts on the day of its results — which gave for the first time a clear picture of the company's activities and repositioned IBC as a business information group.

Laurence Isaacson, co-founder of the Chez Gérard restaurant chain, will be clutching copies of his annual report when he goes to America this week on a marketing drive. These elegant silver and blue reports will be given to potential investors, journalists and tour operators. "I look at our annual report more as a company brochure with some figures at the back," says Mr Isaacson.

The annual report does not have to be merely a pedestrian business statement. It can also be an eye-catching and compact marketing device.

JULIAN LEE

Hired hand

THE City reunion of the year, as Keith Percy heads in as full-time consultant at Société Générale Asset Management. Full-time consultant sounds like a contradiction in terms, but a staff job would be impossible during the endless Imro investigation into the Peter Young affair at Deutsche Grenfell, which cost him his job. Percy is, of course, the man who brought in Nicola Horlick at DMG, and now the two refugees are to be reunited under one roof on Ludgate Hill.

Well, almost. Strictly speaking Percy is being hired by the French parent and will spend an unspecified amount of time in Paris. Horlick has many kind words to say about Percy in her book, and she made the first approach, on behalf of Patrick Pagni, who heads the French bank in London. "I wanted the Imro thing to get sorted out before taking on anything, but it dragged on and on," says Percy. "I've got to get back to work to earn a living, and to relearn just how to get up in the morning."



Horlick: made the first approach to old friend



☐ *THE keynote speaker at a conference in London this weekend, part of the ASEM 2 summit of Asian and EU leaders, is Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia. His chosen topic: "Asia and Europe: Forging a New Partnership for the Next Millenium."*

Mahathir's hopes of a partnership with the West have clearly improved more than a little since December. At that time he described Western democracies as "no better than the feudalistic theocratic states which preceded them" and attacked Western governments as "able actively to interfere in our affairs, instigating our people to violence against our government and against each other". Or so he told an audience in Tehran.

Boy blunder

I AM required to exercise the judgement of Solomon after reporting last week how PPP, the private healthcare group, is claiming the baby used in the publicity material for the Department of Health's 24-hour helpline as its own. Specifically, PPP is claiming that the brat's picture was used in the material that launched a similar service last summer. Not so, says Health, it's ours.

In the interests of fairness I have taken the child into custody — it seems to be missing its mother — pending trials to establish parentage. So I ring PPP to say that if they can successfully name it, as the Department has, I will hand it over. My source starts to bluster — "uncanny likeness, extraordinary resemblance" — but fails the test. Hardly surprising. The poor little mite will have to carry through life the name Hannibal Knowles.

☐ *AS TONY BLAIR invites some rather chastened union leaders into Number 10 — and you have to be pretty old to remember the days when they swanned in as if they owned the place — the workers need all the help they can get. The GMB has a fight on at something called Kent Salads. So staff have taken to wearing T-shirts bearing the words "Lettuce be recognised".*

Bum note

DAVID MURRELL at KPMG is one of the most experienced accountants in the area of entertainment and media, who set up the first specialised practice in that area in 1984. His clients include people such as Richard Branson at Virgin and Chris Wright at Chrysalis. Which only makes one wonder why his taste in music is so awful. Murrell this week celebrates 30 years at KPMG with two parties at the City Golf Bar and Restaurant in Bride Lane, of which he owns two thirds. Featuring "entertainment" from, last night, Showaddywaddy and, tomorrow, the Searchers.

Murrell essays some preposterous defence about those acts representing the best of the 1960s and 1970s. From a one-time professional country and western singer — "I gave it up to get married" — Murrell's choice might have been worse. Just. But oh dear. "It's not actually my taste in music," he claims. Then he realises, rather late, I fear, that his credibility needs a bit of bolstering. "I was talking to Harvey Goldsmith in Cannes at MIDEM the other day, and he was saying..."

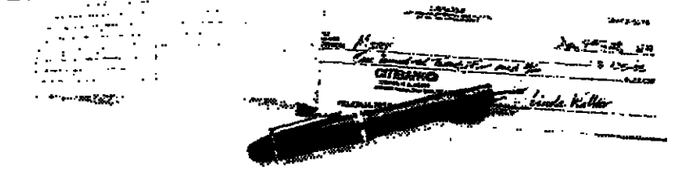
MARTIN WALLER



Showaddywaddy: strange choice of "entertainment"

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard				
Do 63% to Mar 20	141.16	150.42	-0.22	
Do 63% to Mar 20	140.18	140.18		
UK Equity Safeguard	112.09	119.84	+0.04	2.02
Do 84% to Mar 20	110.61	110.61		
US Bay Safeguard	9409.00	9985.00		
Cash	956.78	981.95	...	5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	419.50	446.30	-0.20	1.48
US Small Cos	94.27	100.61	+0.33	0.50
FTSE 250 Index	114.09	122.01	+0.21	1.89
Geared UK Index	2812.50	2969.05	-32.00	5.75
Income Funds				
Corp Bd				
Monthly Inc	94.27	97.26	-0.01	6.56
	46.08	49.30†	-0.02	7.98
International Funds				
American Gen	327.00	346.90	-0.38	
American Strat	242.05	258.86	+0.01	
AG US Index	2585.04	2723.68		4.00
European Gen	389.48	412.80	-2.10	0.08
European Strat	166.87	178.46	-0.59	
Japan Gen	99.40	105.40	-2.20	
Asia Pacific	66.70	70.16	-0.92	1.09
Pacific Strat	103.58	110.77†	-1.09	
Greater China	202.91	217.00	-2.13	
Latin America	108.58	113.74†	+0.40	
Intl Growth	180.65	193.20	-0.79	0.11
Balanced Exempt	177.50	184.60		1.77
Global Strategy	49.08	52.49	+0.10	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	969.20	1031.60	-8.00	2.21
General Inc	785.80	835.90	-6.40	2.21
UK Growth Acc	665.90	707.40	-5.80	2.19
UK Growth Inc	420.40	447.20	-3.60	2.19
Higher Inc Acc #	1254.00	1333.00	-11.00	4.10
Higher Inc Inc #	643.30	684.30	-5.70	4.10
Gilts Fxd Int Acc	238.80	252.20	+0.20	5.60
Gilts Fxd Int Inc	97.05	102.50	+0.10	5.60
Nth America	468.70	498.60	-1.90	
Europe	551.80	587.00	-4.90	0.48
Eml Excell	132.10	140.50	-1.70	2.06
Brit Fndtn Acc	166.90	177.50	-1.10	3.97
Brit Fndtn Inc	105.60	112.30	-0.60	3.97
Global Opps	131.50	139.80	-0.80	0.22
Balanced Acc	81.50	86.70	-0.66	2.13
Balanced Inc	74.58	79.33	-0.60	2.13
Japan Acc	32.30	34.36	-0.88	
Pac Basin Acc	296.20	315.10	-5.40	2.12
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	146.40	155.30†	+0.20	5.76
High Inc Equity	248.40	265.70†	-0.30	3.79
Worldwide Bond	266.60	282.70†	+0.10	3.54
American Growth	577.70	617.10†	-2.80	0.20
Asian Pacific	232.00	248.10	-2.10	0.50
Assets & Earnings	398.40	426.10	-1.20	2.40
Euro Capital Acc	286.70	306.60	-0.50	0.85
Extra Inc	43.77	46.59†	-0.04	8.93
General	361.70	384.80†	-0.70	2.55
Global Opps	84.65	90.06	-0.39	0.36
Japan	74.93	80.14	-1.21	
Managed Inc	55.89	59.45†	-0.07	4.20
Mastertrust	205.40	219.70	-0.40	1.01
US Emerging Cos	238.50	256.10	+0.30	
Ethical	104.70	111.40		1.64
International	155.50	165.40	-0.40	0.56
Dividend & Growth	91.53	97.37†	-0.13	3.52
Global Grth & Sec	80.04	85.38	+0.24	2.37
Latin America	79.03	84.07	+0.44	0.80
Capital Reserve	155.30	155.40	-0.10	4.50
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
H&P UK Growth	130.30	138.60	-0.60	1.37
Equity Income #	179.90	191.30†	-0.60	3.26
Extra Income #	330.70	351.10†	-0.50	4.31
Smaller Cos	112.00	119.10†	+0.80	1.77
International	145.70	154.90	-1.10	0.77
ABERDEEN PROLIFIC UT MGRS LTD				
Enq: 0345 695 666 Dlg: 0800 833 580				
Amer Opp Acc	411.12	432.85	-1.85	
Emrg Mkts Inc	62.63	66.27	+0.30	
Ethical Inc	98.26	103.97	-0.58	0.30
Euro Grth Acc	136.46	144.01	-2.12	
Euro Spec Opps Acc	143.12	151.46	-0.96	
Extra Inc Inc	249.84	263.68†	-1.22	3.61
Extra Inc Acc	343.78	362.82	-1.68	3.61
FE Emg Econ	82.95	87.77	-0.32	0.95
Fixed Int Inc #	30.08	31.57†	+0.05	7.60
Frontier Mkt Inc	79.41	84.03	+0.71	0.10
Fund Of Inv Inc #	221.91	234.82	+4.04	7.19
Fund Of Inv Acc	470.12	497.47	+8.55	7.19
Gilt Inc Inc #	50.88	53.01†	+0.02	6.67
Global Bond Inc	40.45	42.22	-0.12	4.78
Global Inc Inc	33.45	35.21	-0.18	3.39
Global Inc Acc	51.40	54.12	-0.27	3.39
High Inc Inc	190.22	201.30	-0.95	3.38
High Inc Acc	252.46	267.16	-1.25	3.38
Japan Inc	138.57	146.64	-2.79	
Latin Amer Inc	69.15	73.16	+0.28	0.06
Master Inc Inc	69.19	73.21	+0.22	2.30
Master Grth Inc	63.71	67.41	+0.04	0.21
North Amer Inc	284.57	299.43	-1.28	
North Amer Acc	284.91	299.79	-1.28	
Pacific Inc	58.45	61.85	-0.55	0.19
Prop Share Inc	100.68	106.54	-0.17	1.09
Recovery Inc	118.82	125.74	-0.81	1.31
Recovery Acc	136.08	142.94	-0.93	1.31
Special Sit Inc	192.57	203.79	-0.22	0.79
Special Sit Acc	219.10	230.81	-0.24	0.79
Tech Inc	859.38	904.57	+4.23	
Tech Acc	859.38	904.57	+4.23	
UK Blue Chip Inc	127.67	134.74†	-1.23	2.22
UK Blue Chip Acc	153.69	162.20	-1.46	2.22
UK Emg Co Inc	88.03	95.15	+0.04	0.44
UK Gwth Inc	79.06	83.21	+0.18	1.00
World Port Inc #	99.77	105.52	-0.65	1.86
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2747.00	2957.00		
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5858				
Pens'd Property #	109.30	116.20†		5.50
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	118.69	123.91†	-0.49	1.80
Income Builder Inc	107.72	114.60	-0.12	2.87
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Capital Qul Pens	152.80	158.70		
Comptn Pensl Pens	89.46	92.97		
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
American Sm Cos	497.70	518.10		0
Bond	129.60	132.20		6.31
Brit Smlr Cos	130.40	138.10		1.60
Europe	422.90	448.50		0
Euro Smlr Cos	141.60	151.10		0
High Income #	78.37	81.24†		4.87
Income	465.70	495.00†		3.39
Japan	266.00	282.40		0
Latin American	108.40	115.50		0
Pacific	92.09	97.33		1.21
UK Smlr Cos	71.63	76.41		1.29
Japanese Sm Cos	458.00	472.60†		0
Mngd Fd	270.30	286.63		2.08
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	465.60	492.60		0.70
Capital Gwth	182.60	193.10		2.18
Wwide Opps	257.90	272.90		0.80
BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD				
Customer Help Desk 0181 522 4000				
Income Funds				
Cash	100.00	100.00†	-1.40	6.83
Cash Acc	133.30	135.30†	-0.10	6.83
Income #	802.70	856.20	-1.00	3.46
Income Builder #	91.38	97.32†	-0.13	4.06
Balanced Funds				
Exempt	123.60	131.50	-0.30	1.71
500	597.40	642.40†	+2.10	1.57
General	467.90	500.40†	-0.70	1.20
Property	272.30	292.10		5.61
Trustee	326.20	347.00	-0.80	1.58
Growth Funds - UK				
Capital	209.70	224.20†	-0.30	1.11
FTSE 100	151.20	160.60	-0.70	1.41
Growth Acc	657.00	698.90	-2.20	1.16
Smaller Cos	69.66	74.30	+0.28	1.84
Smaller Cos Acc	83.90	89.49	+0.34	1.84
Growth Funds - Overseas				
America	260.70	275.30	+0.10	0.02
American Growth	179.60	190.10	-0.10	
Japan	91.77	96.88†	-2.63	
Japan Acc	92.82	98.00	-2.90	
Japan Spec Sits	42.68	45.17	-1.02	
Worldwide	238.60	253.20	-8.70	0.59
Barclays Investment Portfolios				
Managed Income	48.90	51.62†		6.54
Mgd Gwth & Inc #	50.27	53.22†	-0.03	5
Managed Growth	52.40	55.77	-0.23	0.60
Barclays Global Investors Funds:				
Brokerline 0800 731 2443				
Income Funds				
Distribution #	141.00	141.70†	-0.20	4.65
Equity Income #	196.30	209.40	-0.50	3.56
Gilt & Fx Int	64.28	66.54†	-0.05	6.77
Int Fxd Int	99.31	102.60	-0.10	5.06
Int Fxd Int Acc	128.70	133.00	-0.10	5.06
Growth Funds - UK				
UK Growth	602.70	641.10	-0.50	1.18
UK Growth Acc	602.70	641.10	-0.59	1.18
Growth & Inc	614.70	653.90	-0.50	1.18
Growth & Inc Acc	1330	1415	-1.00	1.16
Growth Funds - Overseas				
Euro Growth	295.00	301.60	-0.30	0.23
Euro Growth Acc	312.10	330.30	-0.40	0.23
Far Eastern Gwth	119.40	127.10	-1.30	0.47
Far East Gth Acc	202.80	215.80	-2.20	0.47
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	204.10	215.50	-0.80	
Amer Smllr Cos	180.70	192.10	+0.10	
Eastern	172.20	184.60	-1.30	0.30
Equity Income #	138.90	148.60	-1.30	4.00
European Growth	606.20	643.40	-5.60	0.80
Europe	504.10	538.40	+1.00	0.60
German Growth	136.80	145.00	-0.60	0.50
Global Bond	74.17	77.99		5.10
Global Growth	208.90	221.70	-1.70	0.10
Japan Growth	113.50	120.20	-3.00	
Japan Smllrs	81.54	86.34	-1.14	
Korea Trust	30.23	32.69	-0.44	
Portfolio	197.50	210.20†	-0.70	1.80
-do- Accum	383.40	408.00	-1.50	1.80
UK Growth	157.00	167.30	-1.10	1.60
UK Smaller Cos	152.20	166.40	+0.40	1.69
Select Managers	106.20	113.40		1.08
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Cash Port Inc	112.00	119.20		
Special Oppor Inc	63.53	67.58†		...
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	210.81	219.59	-0.50	0.74
-do- Accum	249.36	259.75	-0.59	0.74
Smaller Cos	219.96	229.13	+0.94	0.35
-do- Accum	249.46	259.85	+1.07	0.35
Higher Yield #	79.90	83.31	-0.23	3.27
-do- Accum #	131.77	137.26	-0.38	3.27
American Gth Inc	146.44	152.54†	-0.48	
European Growth	239.06	249.02†	+1.91	
-do- Accum	244.18	254.35	+1.96	
Mngd Pfolio Inc	65.53	68.26†	-0.22	1.19
-do- Accum	68.94	71.81	-0.23	1.19
Intl Spec Opps	218.38	227.48	-0.53	
Pacific Grth	112.06	118.73	-1.82	0.06
UK General #	140.04	145.88	+1.41	2.47
-do- Accum #	156.18	162.69	+1.58	2.47
Japan	36.90	38.43	-0.85	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	111.47	115.51†	-0.12	7.28
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.34	65.10†	+0.01	6.42
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Environ	247.30	259.80	+0.50	1.20
UK Growth	308.30	323.60†	-0.80	1.39
UK Income	214.90	225.70	-0.40	3.01
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	308.70	328.20†	-2.40	1.98
-do- Income Dist	176.80	187.40	-1.30	2.70
-do- Accum	596.80	632.30	-4.10	2.70
Gilt & Fxd Int	44.28	46.53†	+0.05	4.94
Growth Units	373.80	396.90†	-2.70	1.45
Bond	191.20	201.10		5.20
Intl Growth	254.10	270.10	-2.70	0.27
North American	363.50	385.50	-2.50	1.00
Far East	190.20	202.80	+1.50	0.87
UK Smaller Cos	311.20	332.60	-1.80	0.44
European	136.90	144.90	-1.00	
Japanese Growth	27.18	28.81†	-0.77	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
High Income	306.60	329.30†	-2.20	2.80
Eurogrowth Plus	232.15	247.01	-2.60	0.10
Portfolio	105.87	112.63	-0.78	1.07
UK Income Inc	132.43	140.87†	-0.99	3.35
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0181 831 7433 Enq 0181 831 7433 Dlg 0181 831 7465				
American & Gen	322.80	341.70†	-0.98	
European Inc	149.30	158.40	-1.80	0.14
Smaller Cos (4-1)	130.40	138.80†	+3.40	1.55
Growth	792.30	842.90†	-1.90	1.48
Income & Growth #	661.60	703.90	-2.50	3.79
-do- Accum #	1053.50	1120.80	-3.80	3.79
Japan & Gen	46.24	48.97†	-1.15	
Natresh Gwth	1651.00	1730.00	-11.00	1.34
-do- Accum	2076.00	2163.00	-15.00	1.34
Special Sits	183.20	194.90	-0.48	1.46
High Yield	2155.00	2222.00	-15.00	3.30
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	124.95	132.84	-0.79	2.18
American Portfolio	181.75	193.02		0.41
European Portfolio	199.83	212.27		0.31
High Income	56.50	59.44	-0.03	6.28
Japanese Portfolio	45.76	48.51†		
Pacific Portfolio	120.62	129.70		1.14
UK Equity	129.51	138.08	-1.05	2.59
UK Equity & Bd	73.87	78.31	-0.37	4.85
UK Smlr Cos	62.14	66.47†	+0.03	1.74
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	1056.50	1074.50		3.23
Inv Fd Acc	1099.80	1118.50		
Fxd Int Sec Inc	157.55	168.23		7.61
Fxd Int Sec Acc	182.60	183.34		
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	1038.18	1053.88		3.30
Investment Acc	5041.65	5117.85		
Fixed Int Inc	137.89	138.45		7.51
Fixed Int Acc	275.88	281.00		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Beckman Inst	101.11	106.29		5.81
Beck Bio-Tech	42.42	45.77		
Acorn Ethical Tst	228.16	242.72		0.50
City Fin Assets	100.28	106.30	+0.14	2.51
City Fin Intl	95.86	101.98		
Finsbs Hse Cap	433.23	460.86	-6.77	2.05
Buckley Wrld Grth	139.74	148.12		
Utilities Fd	92.64	94.86	-0.23	3.16
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	51.57	54.72†	-0.08	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	109.91	116.93	-0.30	
Dragon Growth	46.48	49.71	-0.72	1.15
Equity High Inc	133.65	141.42†	-0.86	3.86
-do- Accum	202.72	214.51	-1.31	3.86
Extra Income Inc	29.44	31.01	-0.01	5.73
Extra Income Acc	34.66	36.51	-0.01	5.73
European Gwth	98.80	104.55	-1.58	
Evergreen	39.65	42.40	-0.19	
General Equity	153.63	162.14	-1.34	1.78
Japan Growth	30.35	32.29	-0.98	
Pedigree Gwth	97.26	102.92	-0.62	1.25
Ped Sm Cos Inc	49.17	52.03	+0.06	1.09
-do- Accum	52.94	56.02	+0.07	1.09
Retirement Inc #	38.66	41.13	-0.25	4.40
Special Sits	64.71	69.58	-0.32	2.81
UK & Overseas	75.82	80.23	-0.79	0.3
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	91.16	94.95†	-0.43	2.84
Capital	114.48	119.24†	-0.76	1.63
High Income	57.70	60.10†		6.32
Top 50	85.56	89.12†	-0.98	1.59
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	263.98	275.01†	-6.12	3.68
Long Gilt	52.63	54.79†	-0.37	4.75
Monthly Inc Plus	61.96	64.55†	-0.19	6.94
-do- Accum	76.37	79.56	+0.14	6.94
Preference Share	60.18	62.69†	-0.94	6.22
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	181.50	189.08†	3.50	5.10
Managed Fund	92.54	96.41†	-1.64	2.20
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	58.22	60.65†	-0.47	1.40
-do- Accum	70.18	73.11†	+0.01	1.40
UK & General	139.82	145.66†	-2.06	1.86
-do- Accum	188.49	196.36†	-1.61	1.86
UK Growth	278.67	290.31†	-2.45	1.35
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	322.23	340.90†	-5.63	0.39
Far Eastern Gth	94.56	98.51†	-2.03	0.29
Global Bond	69.77	72.68†	-1.62	5.28
Japan Growth	81.09	84.48†	-2.67	
North Amer Gth	343.55	357.90†	-1.29	
Oriental Growth	58.78	61.24†	-1.00	0.80
Worldwide Growth	91.36	95.18†	-1.08	0.27
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.43	91.43†	-2.42	6.84
Homeowner Fund	113.01	120.24†	-0.99	1.87
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Consistent UT	48.42	51.71†		2.49
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	225.50	239.90	-0.70	1.13
Income	97.85	104.10	-0.70	3.25
European Growth	110.80	117.70	-1.90	
Recovery	246.30	262.00†		1.67
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1355.80	1376.10		3.03
CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MGMT FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	99.99	106.00	-2.00	0.30
Fellowship Tst	139.50	149.40†	-0.20	0.99
Income #	389.30	414.10	-1.40	3.35
-do- Accum #	1077.00	1145.00	-5.00	3.35
Smaller Cos	273.90	291.30	+0.70	0.64
-do- Accum	345.40	365.30	-1.00	0.64
Gth Portfolio	137.00	145.70†	-0.70	1.04
Mthly Inc Port #	114.40	121.70†	-0.50	3.20
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1985.10	2013.20†		0.46
UK Small Cos	2516.70	2630.80		3.36
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	291.10	300.10		
DRESDNER RCM FUNDS (UK) LTD				
Dealers 0171 956 7354 Client Helpline 0800 317573				
Formerly KBUT				
Amer Smlls Cos	222.90	237.10	+1.50	
Asian Growth	191.90	204.10	+0.10	0.30
Bond Income	110.30	114.30†	-0.30	6.70
European	286.90	305.20	-2.90	0.40
European Pnc	148.10	157.50	-1.90	0.70
European Special	198.10	210.70	-1.50	
Gilt Yield	131.30	138.40†	+0.30	6.10
Global Eqty Inc	152.30	161.50†	-1.80	1.40
High Yield #	227.10	241.50	-1.70	3.80
Japan	275.60	292.80	-8.40	
Japanese Special	121.70	129.40	-3.40	
Money Market	104.06	104.06†	+0.05	6.00
North American	159.80	169.90		
Smaller Cos	186.60	197.40	-0.20	0.80
Smlr Cos Div	77.90	82.87†		4.20
Tomorrows Co Et	1353.00	1372.00	-10.00	0.10
UK Equity Growth	69.40	73.82†	-0.43	0.60
UK Index Inc	483.60	486.00	-3.80	2.50
Bircham Tst	129.90	139.60†		1.40
Global Income	271.50	288.80†	-2.60	2.80
Formerly Thornton				
European	492.00	515.00†	-4.95	0.30
European Bd	37.64	38.40†	-0.11	6.10
Exempt	970.20	1009.20	-5.77	1.90
Global Em Mkt	77.98	81.65†	-0.31	0.30
Japan Tst	58.14	60.87	-1.44	
Little Dragons	74.59	78.10	-1.19	
Nth Amer Gwth	436.90	457.00	-0.13	0.60
Oriental Income #	36.79	38.52†	-0.15	3.40
Preference	158.80	166.20	-0.43	7.20
Tiger	196.40	205.60	-1.51	
UK Blue Chip	120.30	125.90	-1.05	1.10
UK Growth	931.40	975.20	-5.65	1.30
UK High Yield #	164.70	172.30	-1.18	3.80
UK Mid-Cap	474.80	497.10	+0.57	1.00
UK Smlr Cos Div #	97.84	102.40	+0.16	5.50
UK Smlr Cos	160.50	167.90†	+1.15	0.10
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 080 526				
Convertibles #	27.42	29.13†	-0.05	4.81
Enterprise	132.80	140.80	+0.20	1.78
Equity Income #	198.60	211.80†	-2.20	3.03
European	91.77	97.13	-0.35	
Financial @	88.55	94.08	-0.32	1.06
Growth & Inc #	412.00	437.80†	+5.40	2.00
High Dist #	251.70	267.20	-2.60	3.18
International	492.80	523.20	+3.00	
Int Cap Inc	131.80	140.70	+0.30	1.92
Latin American	37.07	39.38	+0.03	
Mgd Gwth Port	110.90	115.98†		0.60
Pacific	70.53	74.94	-0.19	
Pref High Inc	27.67	29.48		8.12
Tokyo	141.50	149.00	-0.10	
UK Smaller Cos	317.80	337.70	+1.30	1.04
Japan Sm Cos	230.50	244.00	-0.30	
Nth Amer	595.80	629.60	-3.10	
UK Inc & Gth	373.70	397.70	+5.70	2.01
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BB Director Dlgs	132.60	141.40		0.91
Growth Acc	359.60	378.50		0.17
Income	722.50	760.50		4.09
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	279.40	295.20		0.98
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	137.07	144.28	-1.19	1.29
Ethical Tst	62.11	66.39	+0.08	0.75
Far Eastern	224.99	236.83	-2.71	1.81
High Income	201.13	211.72	+0.15	3.38
UK Index Tracking	75.89	79.88	-0.31	2.18
Intl Growth	147.00	154.74†	-1.12	1.11
North American	212.68	223.87	-0.65	1.21
Pelican	205.54	216.36	-0.57	2.30
Smaller Cos	86.72	91.28	-0.18	1.80
Special Sits	105.03	110.56	-0.06	2.37
Tst of Inv Tsts	266.71	280.22	-1.35	1.84
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	185.10	196.39	+1.21	
Fd of Inv Tsts	68.66	72.85	-0.11	0.11
High Income #	50.31	53.26	+0.01	9.37
Wstr & Gt Opps	65.11	69.66†	-0.02	
Zero Preference	50.84	57.94	-0.81	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 724 570				
Family Asset Tst	140.70	149.60		1.96
Charities Eth	398.90	424.30	-0.20	2.79
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		7.00
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	25.57	26.61	-0.12	4.75
Strategic Inc	31.50	32.90†	-0.08	5.12
Income Funds				
High Income	34.24	35.90	-0.13	4.38
Income Plus #	198.50	209.00†	-1.40	3.33
European Income	71.98	78.33	-0.82	1.19
Moneybuilder Gwth #	45.98	46.31†	-0.38	2.05
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	30.59	33.06	-0.30	
American	470.70	500.60	+1.40	
Amer Spec Sits	255.00	272.30	-0.40	
Japan Smaller Cos	17.53	18.63†	-0.25	
European	352.60	375.00	-2.40	0.28
European Opps	131.80	140.00	-1.50	0.40
Global Pnr	46.20	49.13	-0.28	0.33
UK Growth	179.80	191.20	-0.80	1.02
Growth & Inc #	262.10	278.70	-2.30	2.15
Intl PEP	67.680	71.970	-0.62	0.95
Japan Spec Sits	55.44	58.81	-1.48	
Japan	140.80	149.00	-3.60	
Managed Intl	475.90	505.50†	-3.60	0.53
Moneybuilder Plus	86.83	87.45	-0.36	0.30
Recovery	78.450	83.420†	+0.01	1.64

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
South E Asia	156.30	166.40	-2.20	1.26
Special Sits	1040.00	1106.00	...	1.02
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	124.49	124.49	+0.05	7.08
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	186.70	188.50†		1.46
Fixed Int Inc #	118.00	117.00†	-0.20	5.21
Cap Prtfo	209.60	210.00	-1.60	0.24
General Opps	188.60	189.90		2.84
Growth Inc	53.59	54.28	-0.33	1.02
Private Portfolio	632.10	642.50†		0.98
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 380 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	220.20	234.00	-0.50	
High Income	24.74	26.16†	-0.16	8.60
UK Smlr Cos	37.18	39.77	+0.16	1.73
US Smaller Cos	592.80	629.50	+4.80	
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	119.20	126.30†	-0.60	
-do- Accum	119.20	126.30†	-0.68	
Amer Smlr Cos	860.60	914.60		
-do- Accum	879.40	934.50	+0.20	
Capital Tst	480.00	510.50†	+1.10	1.26
-do- Accum	716.90	762.70†	+1.60	1.26
Contl Smlr Cos	83.37	88.78	-0.03	
-do- Accum	89.46	95.27	-0.03	
Convertible	162.10	172.40	+0.20	5.83
-do- Accum	377.00	401.10	+0.70	5.83
Emerging Markets	61.50	65.70	-0.12	0.67
-do- Accum	62.03	66.27	-0.11	0.07
European	227.40	240.80	-3.60	
-do- Accum	241.80	256.20	-3.80	
Extra Income	539.80	573.40	-5.20	3.99
-do- Accum	897.80	955.10	-8.90	3.99
Financial	288.50	306.90	-2.20	0.94
-do- Accum	309.00	328.70	-2.40	0.94
Gilt Trust	65.30	67.33	+0.02	7.04
-do- Accum	107.50	110.90	+0.10	7.04
Health Fund Inc	301.80	321.10	-0.30	
-do- Accum	301.80	321.10	-0.30	
Income & Growth	312.70	332.70	-1.80	3.77
-do- Accum	521.70	555.00	-3.00	3.77
Intl Growth	523.60	556.90	-3.90	
-do- Accum	581.50	618.40	-4.30	
Japan & Gen	114.10	120.90†	-3.40	
-do- Accum	115.20	122.20†	-3.30	
Monthly Inc #	273.90	291.40†	-1.80	3.98
-do- Accum #	289.10	307.50†	-1.90	3.98
Managed Port Inc	148.50	156.30	+1.00	1.15
-do- Accum	163.20	171.80	+1.20	1.15
Quarterly Income #	72.15	77.84†	-0.32	4.81
-do- Accum #	88.13	94.11†	-0.37	4.81
Recovery	335.40	358.70	-2.60	
-do- Accum	395.90	423.40	-3.10	
UK Growth	87.03	92.59	-0.56	1.20
-do- Accum	96.16	102.30	-0.66	1.20
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715836 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	88.67	94.26	-0.17	
FP Am Smlr Cos	238.30	254.10	-0.40	
FP Asian Growth	173.00	184.50	-1.60	
FP Australian	442.30	471.70	-7.10	
FP Equity Dist	649.20	692.40	-1.40	1.49
-do- Accum	1482.00	1580.60	-4.00	1.49
FP Emg Gth	464.00	494.90	-1.88	
-do- Accum	508.40	542.20		2.00
FP Intl Bond	56.19	59.46†	+0.07	3.90
FP Intl Gth Dist	49.14	52.41	-0.18	
-do- Accum	72.44	77.26	-0.28	
FP Pac Basin Acc	170.10	181.40	-3.00	0.06
FP Income #	81.91	87.37	-0.02	3.85
-do- Accum #	305.00	325.30	-0.10	3.85
FP Jap Smlr Cos	160.90	171.60	-4.10	
FP Monthly Dist #	94.98	101.30†		4.34
FP Stlg Deposit	101.30	101.30		6.21
FP Tokyo	60.90	64.96	-1.52	
FP UK Focus	60.63	64.67	-0.16	1.04
FP UK Growth	284.00	302.90	-0.60	1.04
-do- Accum	589.30	628.50	-1.20	1.04
Stewardship Dist	549.30	585.90	+0.70	1.15
-do- Accum	703.50	750.40	+0.90	1.15
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	86.46	92.22†	+0.11	4.23
-do- Accum #	127.20	135.60	+0.20	4.23
Stwdshp Intern	175.50	187.20	-0.60	
-do- Accum	189.00	201.50	-0.60	
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	142.50	143.20	-0.30	2.40
Inst Ethical Ac #	146.00	146.70	-0.30	2.40
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	165.80	176.30	-0.60	0.44
Open Cap Gth Acc	165.10	175.60	+0.60	0.01
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	145.70	154.90†	-0.60	2.38
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	158.60	168.70	-0.60	2.38
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	152.00	161.60†	+0.40	3.00
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	169.40	180.20	+0.50	3.00
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	425.60	448.00	+2.70	1.04
Cash	49.70	50.45†	+0.02	6.20
Income Portfolio	94.44	99.41†	+0.28	2.89
GA Equity Gth	314.90	335.00†	+1.30	1.10
GA European Gth	197.70	209.60†	+1.20	
GA Japan Gth	73.47	78.02†	-2.02	
GA Nth Amer Gth	339.40	357.30†	+0.10	
GA Intl Gth	155.60	165.60†	-0.10	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	285.60	305.90	+0.90	0.11
European Gth	1056.00	1120.00	-7.00	0.22
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	65.39	69.18		3.06
-do- Accum	78.33	80.75		3.06
High Yield #	55.77	58.93	+0.12	6.70
-do- Accum #	67.36	71.18	+0.15	6.70
Income Inc	267.70	286.30†	+0.80	2.88
-do- Accum	320.30	342.60	+0.80	2.88
Intl Growth	436.90	462.80	-1.89	1.61
Intl Income	129.40	137.00	-0.38	1.86
Japan Growth	383.60	406.50	-1.10	
Orient Acc	143.70	153.30	-1.40	0.20
UK Blue Chip Inc	266.80	285.00	-0.20	1.07
UK Blue Chip Acc	484.30	517.40	-0.30	1.07
UK Sm Cos Dv Acc	88.36	94.51	+0.15	1.23
US Growth	270.30	295.80	-0.50	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	83.48	89.05†	-0.60	1.36
Practical Inv Inc #	157.60	168.56†	-0.37	2.85
-do- Accum #	393.56	420.92†	-0.93	2.85
UK Index	255.25	256.53†	-2.09	2.40
UK Smaller Cos	292.90	313.26	+1.59	1.07
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	26.62	27.59	-0.01	6.78
High Income	48.61	51.84†	-0.23	3.14
UK Growth & Inc	228.75	235.14†	-1.20	2.16
Global Bond	26.86	27.84†	-0.07	5.68
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	44.80	47.91	+0.12	
Global Managed	170.15	180.36	-1.38	0.72
Gold & Intl Res	76.96	82.31	+0.04	
Global Utilities	216.37	230.25	-0.70	3.74
Overseas Funds				
American	275.17	291.25	-1.37	0.05
European	206.04	218.74†	-2.85	0.32
Euro Sel Opps	339.08	360.18	-3.23	
Amer Emerging	229.42	244.37	+0.17	
Hong Kong	129.16	138.09†	-2.05	2.62
Japan	137.71	145.76	-4.21	
Pacific Growth	154.19	164.92	-2.07	0.78
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Cash Trust	156.92	156.92	+0.07	6.89
Managed Equity	325.44	325.44	-2.66	1.57
Long Term Bal	339.32	339.32	-2.18	2.56
Med Term Bal	278.27	278.27	-1.02	2.87
UK Equity	413.78	413.78	-2.41	1.70
UK Emerging Cos	218.35	218.35	+0.78	1.69
American	458.35	458.35†	-3.27	0.31
Japan	85.66	85.66†	-1.89	
European	530.15	530.15†	-8.81	0.61
Index Linked Gilt	218.10	218.10	-0.40	2.46
Fixed Interest	211.26	211.26†	+0.35	6.12
Amer Emerging	514.17	514.17†	+1.37	
Pacific	137.81	137.81	-1.35	1.74
Emerging Mkts	131.45	131.45†	+0.18	0.64
Index Smrd Japan	92.50	92.50	-3.24	0.52
-do- Pacific Rim	127.08	127.08	-2.26	2.71
-do- Conf Europe	285.01	285.01	-4.10	1.08
Index Strat USA	288.12	288.12	-1.33	1.04
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	154.03	168.86	-1.34	
Med Term Bal	133.35	141.86	-0.52	
Long Term Bal	153.41	163.19	-1.06	
UK Equity	193.68	206.04	-1.20	
UK Emerging Cos	103.29	109.88	+0.40	
American	213.26	226.86	-1.63	
Japan	40.98	43.59	-0.97	
European	221.26	235.38	-3.93	
Fixed Interest	109.74	116.74	+0.19	
Index Linked Gilt	97.37	103.58	+0.19	
Deposit	95.69	101.15	+0.04	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	186.08	195.87†	-0.10	0.43
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Intl Gwth Inc ‡	913.35	...	+1.42	
-do- Accum ‡	1036.74	...	+1.61	
European Gth Inc ‡	243.29	...	-2.61	0.23
Amalgam Inc	204.87	216.20		
N Amer Gwth Inc ‡	621.34	...	-3.49	
Far East Gth Inc ‡	261.98	...	-4.05	0.52
-do- Accum ‡	273.22	...	-4.24	0.46
UK Divd Inc ‡	382.26	...	+0.19	0.99
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9668				
European	839.30	895.60	-7.30	
Gilt & Fixed	144.70	153.50†	+0.20	5.03
Growth Equity	579.40	619.00	-0.70	0.94
Income Trust	212.60	227.10	-0.40	3.42
International	249.80	266.80†	-0.70	
Japan Trust	85.09	90.90	-2.35	
Nth American	493.00	526.30	+0.10	
Pacific	377.70	403.50	-5.20	3.45
Guardhill	831.80	888.60†	-0.50	1.10
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
European Bond	96.38	100.04†	-0.33	4.43
Global High Inc	92.31	95.80	-0.55	5.12
Stlg Bond Pflo	117.69	122.15	+0.13	5.59
Cml Mgd Pflo	148.74	158.14	-1.23	1.37
European Pflo	190.57	202.47	-3.51	
World Mkts Pflo	93.61	99.48	-1.47	0.22
UK Eq Inc Pflo	201.79	214.02†	-1.45	3.65
-do- Accum	210.13	223.74	-2.22	3.65
UK Opps	594.70	632.30	-1.50	1.87
-do- Accum	726.20	772.10	-2.15	1.87
SI Vtec High Inc	167.73	178.24	-0.69	4.66
UK Emerg Cos	316.80	336.80		3.13
Intl UK Sm Co	399.80	406.80	-0.50	2.73
Glob Pnr Tst	161.72	171.95	-1.52	0.33
-do- Accum	169.16	179.86	-1.59	0.33
Inc Share Tst	127.72	135.81†	+0.13	6.64
HK & China Tst	77.93	82.86	-1.32	1.55
Blue Chip Pflo	340.60	362.14	-3.33	1.13
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Balanced Inc	74.26	78.75	-0.41	2.38
Balanced Acc	82.01	86.97	-0.46	2.38
Growth	46.96	49.82†	-0.45	1.39
Growth Acc	49.61	52.67	-0.48	1.39
Income	43.62	46.25†	-0.37	3.21
Income Acc	49.31	51.82	-0.42	3.21
Accumulation Tst	39.46	42.76	-0.33	2.41
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 690 230 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Perf Acc	62.61	66.43	+0.14	2.25
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0645 464646 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	491.75	528.30†	-1.98	
Best of British	99.78	106.06	-0.63	1.76
UK Smaller Cos	203.56	218.82†	+0.19	0.09
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	429.08	456.80	-3.24	3.03
-do- Accum #	1250.56	1341.46	-11.29	3.03
High Income	473.11	505.75	-3.16	3.26
Extra Income #	387.87	412.49†	-3.11	4.33
Pref & Bond	58.09	62.64	-0.16	6.77
International				
Ethical	164.77	176.21†	+0.75	1.56
International	281.36	304.33†	-1.43	0.13
Global Bond	52.55	55.32	-0.03	5.18
Intl Port Tst	125.87	134.72	+0.11	0.67
Global Tech	320.60	341.58	+1.22	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	152.43	166.77	-2.25	0.37
European	930.99	997.87	-14.83	
European Income #	134.80	142.76†	-0.90	2.48
Euro Smlr Cos	251.57	271.53	-0.01	
European Value	133.20	141.62	-0.22	
-do- Accum	143.95	153.15	-0.27	
Japan Trust	122.53	130.85	-3.23	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Smlr Cos	107.64	114.40†	-2.67	
Pacific Smlr Cos	173.24	184.56†	-2.55	0.18
North American	466.80	494.88	-1.18	
American Smaller	255.70	271.92	+1.31	
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0800 520053				
British	181.30	189.94	-1.54	1.31
Capital	265.79	278.31	-2.69	0.89
Dollar	712.25	745.81	-2.83	
Enterprise Gth	584.91	612.47†	-0.77	0.66
European	402.99	427.57	-4.66	
Far East	205.22	214.89	-3.97	1.03
Financial	1655.19	1733.18†	-20.39	1.07
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	29.28	30.45		5.58
High Yield	159.11	166.61	-1.37	3.60
Income & Growth	235.81	246.93	-1.85	2.54
International	378.12	397.56	-4.74	0.38
Japanese General	137.77	144.26	-3.88	..
Japan Tech	60.78	63.84	-1.52	
Nat Resources	61.91	64.93	+0.12	1.26
Portfolio	109.02	114.16	-0.64	2.12
Special Sits	298.52	312.59†	-0.63	0.89
UK Emerging Cos	152.12	159.29	+0.76	0.86
US Smaller Cos	205.14	214.80	+0.47	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 889 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	910.70	971.90	-6.20	3.84
UK Growth	977.20	1042	-6.00	1.14
High Income #	160.60	171.40†	-0.70	4.62
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	870.20	919.50	-5.00	
European Gwth	239.90	255.20	-2.80	
Japan Gwth	205.00	217.80	-6.50	
Japan Smlr Cos	18.04	19.25†	-0.31	
Asian	39.02	41.64	-0.62	1.02
Sing & Malay Gwth	44.88	47.90	-1.36	
Hong Kong Gwth	153.59	163.50†	-2.20	0.81
Global Bond	20.51	21.60	-0.03	5.10
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	240.70	241.98	-1.50	2.21
Trust Index	156.70	160.90†	+0.18	2.19
THE FOOTSIE FUND	97.86	98.35	-1.00	1.52
Index Funds-International				
American Index	433.30	435.50†	-1.00	0.40
Eurotrack 100	283.10	294.80†	-4.70	0.41
Japan Index	49.47	49.72†	-1.58	0.30
Tiger Index	104.40	106.70	-1.90	1.45
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	59.22	61.85†	+0.29	1.30
General Funds				
Managed Dist	111.10	118.60	-0.80	0.92
Managed	115.70	120.80	-0.80	0.92
Pepert Chld Fnd	154.70	161.50	-1.00	0.92
UK Growth	97.04	101.30	-0.60	1.08
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	121.00	126.40	-0.60	4.50
Gilt & Fixed Int #	29.21	30.18†	-0.04	7.27
UK Inc & Gwth	68.98	72.04	-0.46	1.98
UK Income #	538.20	562.10	-3.40	3.15
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	85.58	88.51†	-0.34	
Amer Smlr Cos	211.40	220.00	+0.19	
-do- Accum	213.60	222.39	+0.10	
Europe Gth	386.00	402.20	-3.18	
-do- Accum	399.80	416.60	-3.30	
Euro Smaller Cos	68.60	71.42	+0.12	
French Growth	135.60	140.60†	-2.60	0.45
-do- Accum	146.60	152.30†	-2.80	0.45
H Kong & China	103.40	107.70	-1.70	0.87
Intl Growth	85.27	88.74	-0.95	0.47
-do- Accum	87.00	90.54	-0.97	0.47
Japan Gth	18.85	19.65	-0.64	
-do- Accum	18.85	19.65	-0.64	
Japan Smaller Cos	18.67	19.40	-0.40	
Glob Emg Mkts	91.96	96.84	-0.02	0.03
-do- Accum	92.61	96.72	-0.03	0.03
SE Asia	216.80	226.20†	-3.80	0.59
Overseas Income Funds:				
Intl Bond #	49.44	50.97†	-0.08	5.15
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690448				
UK Income #	157.50	166.70	-0.70	2.45
UK Growth	164.40	174.00	-0.60	1.21
Euro Growth	141.30	149.60	-0.30	1.49
Slater Gwth	271.30	287.10	+1.00	0.70
New Japan	58.69	62.31	-1.50	
Global Growth	114.80	121.50	-0.10	
Monthly Inc #	96.01	101.29	-0.06	7.50
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	189.60	202.00		
Income #	303.06	322.29	-0.68	3.72
UK Growth	117.04	124.50	-0.19	1.71
Intl Growth	106.81	113.62†	-0.45	
Ecology	134.38	142.95	+0.52	0.52
European	300.75	319.29	-3.11	0.41
Far Eastern	253.90	270.00	-3.60	
UK Special Sits	80.55	85.92	-0.27	0.30
Fd of Inv Tsts	67.57	72.06	-0.49	0.37
High Income #	69.32	73.83	-0.53	4.46
Financial Opps	67.78	72.28	-0.45	0.11
Growth & Income #	57.29	61.10	-0.33	3.60
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 556 8800				
Bridge Income	419.48	446.26	-2.90	3.98
Exh Growth	138.77	147.63		0.46
Inc & Growth	107.74	108.23	-1.00	2.87
Smaller Cos	125.46	134.53	+0.12	1.21
Ever Spec Sit Inc	72.47	77.10	+0.27	1.49
Ever Spec Sit Acc	76.70	81.60	+0.28	1.49
Persona Growth	62.35	66.33	-0.39	1.94
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	631.10	669.60†	-3.80	1.30
UK Inc/Gth #	663.90	704.40†	-4.40	2.73
UK Income #	475.10	504.10†	-3.40	3.74
UK Income Acc #	484.10	513.70†	-3.50	3.74
UK Sm Cos	373.40	389.40†	+1.90	1.63
Euro Gwth	231.90	245.20	-3.30	0.22
N Amer Gwth	167.90	177.50	-0.70	
Pacific Growth	6.99	7.42	-0.08	0.19
Emg Mkts Gwth	73.44	77.92	-0.17	
Japan Growth	42.01	44.57	-0.85	
Dealing: 01277 842626				
Gwth Port Inc	91.16	96.40†	+0.30	0.56
Gwth Port Acc	93.12	98.47†	+0.30	0.54
Inc Port Inc	85.70	90.63†	+0.43	3.01
Inc Port Acc	99.30	105.01†	+0.50	2.89
Wwde Port	69.12	73.08	-0.11	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01222 448412 Dealing: 01222 885512				
Equity Dist ⊕	641.90	681.90†	-6.30	1.70
-do- Accum ⊕	1789.00	1789.00†	-14.00	1.70
Equity Income #	139.00	139.00†	-0.50	3.92
UK Tactical Allocn ⊕	94.37	94.37†	-1.18	5.57
European ⊕	214.60	214.60†	-3.20	0.05
Far Eastern ⊕	160.50	160.50	-3.50	
Fixed Interest ⊕	60.09	60.09†	+0.06	7.01
Gilt ⊕	101.60	101.60	+0.10	5.70
Global Growth ⊕	92.94	92.94	-1.14	0.06
Intl Bond ⊕	47.63	47.63†	-0.11	4.93
Japanese ⊕	49.51	49.51	-1.69	
North American ⊕	317.10	317.10†	-1.10	0.07
Pacific Growth ⊕	81.74	81.74†	-1.54	0.91
Pacific Index ⊕	32.76	32.76†	-0.63	2.99
UK Index ⊕	110.70	110.70	-0.09	2.19
UK Recovery ⊕	158.00	158.00	-0.90	1.04
UK Smaller Cos ⊕	211.00	211.00	+0.70	0.95
US Index ⊕	126.10	126.10	-0.50	0.59
European Index ⊕	137.10	137.10†	-2.10	0.83
Japan Index ⊕	25.27	25.27	-0.82	0.04
Worldwide ⊕	125.70	125.70†	-1.10	1.80
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing 01452 371 623				
Growth	79.83	85.16	-0.91	2.80
Income	92.07	98.45	-0.91	3.49
Far East	30.34	32.44†	-0.52	0.70
North American	179.40	191.20	-0.60	
Global	103.20	110.30	-0.90	0.35
European	156.80	167.20†	-2.60	0.28
Asian	60.75	64.85	-1.76	
Intl Currency Bd	54.67	57.93†	-0.16	4.77
UK Bal	61.06	65.30†	-0.64	1.11
UK Cap Growth	143.30	153.20†	-1.20	1.29
Recovery Trust	111.70	119.40	+0.32	2.14
Managed	89.83	95.65†	-0.43	1.32
Cash	50.54	50.54	+0.03	6.75
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk 01634 834 339 Dealing 01634 834 313				
Balanced	588.00	625.60	-1.50	1.56
-do- Accum	1430.00	1522.00	-3.00	1.56
Cond Euro Gth	114.40	120.50	+0.30	0.02
-do- Accum	123.90	130.50	+0.30	0.02
Extra Inc	411.50	437.80	-0.80	3.87
Extra Inc Acc #	1184.00	1260.00	-3.00	3.87
FTSE 100 Inc	182.70	194.40	-0.80	1.68
FTSE 100 Acc	194.70	207.20	-0.90	1.68
German Gth	205.90	216.80	-0.40	0.08
-do- Accum	215.90	227.30	-0.40	0.08
Growth Port	880.90	937.20	-2.40	0.82
-do- Accum	927.90	987.10	-2.50	0.82
High Interest Inc	111.80	115.96†	-0.20	6.51
High Interest Acc	129.20	133.90	-0.20	6.51
Hi Reserve Inc #	135.40	144.10†	-0.20	4.78
Hi Reserve Acc #	158.20	168.32	-0.30	4.70
Income Inc #	837.30	856.90	-1.50	3.08
Income Acc #	2374.00	2526.00	-4.00	3.06
Income Port	746.80	794.53	-6.10	3.35
-do- Accum	881.00	937.30	-7.20	3.39
Japan Growth	71.26	75.81	-2.30	
-do- Accum	71.51	76.08	-2.20	
Master Trust	86.79	92.34	-0.18	1.11
-do- Accum	101.80	109.40	-0.30	1.11
Midlatsum Acc	131.00	139.40		1.66
N American Gen	353.40	376.00	-0.60	0.90
-do- Accum	405.00	435.20	-0.70	0.50
Intl Sm Co Fet	249.80	265.60	+4.20	
-do- Accum	254.70	271.00	+1.20	
Pacific Basin	170.30	181.30	-3.00	0.57
-do- Accum	183.50	195.30	-3.30	0.57
Stdg Fxd Acc	124.50	131.20†	-0.40	1.11
Spread 27/3/98 ‡	119.15			
Small Cos Acc	632.70	666.10	+1.90	1.63
-do- Accum	888.60	935.40	+2.70	1.63
UK Eq Gth	236.50	251.50†	-0.70	2.02
UK Eq Inc #	186.60	197.90†	-0.40	3.11
UK Growth	151.30	161.70	+1.30	1.37
-do- Accum	194.70	207.20	+1.60	1.37
Worldwide Gth	449.20	477.90	-2.70	0.35
-do- Accum	664.90	707.40	-3.90	0.35
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
Greenz	154.98	165.25	-0.31	2.00
Income	104.41	112.02†	-0.19	3.50

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
International	89.08	94.50	-0.36	0.30
Tst of Inv Trusts	97.95	105.09	-1.15	0.99
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
American	699.56	739.50	-3.60	0.43
-do- Accum	875.80	927.80	-4.50	0.43
Amer Recovery	822.80	870.10	-5.00	0.24
-do- Accum	951.70	1006.40	-5.80	0.24
Amer Smlr Cos	195.70	208.40	-1.10	
-do- Accum	199.50	218.80	-1.10	
Australasian	195.70	206.90†	-4.10	2.16
-do- Accum	252.70	267.20†	-3.20	2.16
Blue Chip #	99.80	100.32	-0.93	3.14
-do- Accum #	308.50	310.67	-2.87	3.14
British Opps	76.80	81.28	+0.10	2.24
-do- Accum	276.60	292.90	+0.40	2.24
Capital	1252.60	1324.60†	-5.90	2.28
-do- Accum	1545.10	1633.90†	-7.30	2.28
Charifund #	1103.60	1114.70	-5.30	4.37
-do- Accum #	6132.60	6194.00	-29.40	4.37
Commodity	350.90	371.10		1.49
-do- Accum	520.90	550.90	+0.10	1.49
Corporate Bond	29.70	29.40†	+0.04	6.10
Dividend	60.60	64.10	-0.30	3.78
-do- Accum	285.60	302.28	-1.50	3.78
Equity Income #	427.10	451.70†	-0.18	4.41
-do- Accum #	632.70	669.20†	-0.10	4.41
European	930.50	984.00	-15.00	0.30
-do- Accum	1201.00	1270.10	-19.40	0.30
Euro Dividend #	115.10	121.70	-1.70	2.88
-do- Accum #	152.30	160.80	-2.30	2.88
Euro Smlr Cos	73.62	77.88	-0.41	0.50
-do- Accum	73.90	78.00	-0.50	0.50
Extra Income	651.00	688.40†	-3.50	4.21
-do- Accum	2324.50	2458.40†	-13.70	4.21
Fund of Inv Tsts	892.50	943.80	-3.80	1.09
-do- Accum	1750.40	1851.10	-7.40	1.09
Gilt Income	70.20	70.32	+0.05	5.40
-do- Accum	238.45	238.83	+0.15	5.40
Gold	40.90	43.30	+0.90	0.58
-do- Accum	49.40	52.30	+1.00	0.58
High Interest	25.26	25.26	+0.02	7.25
Income #	46.30	49.00	-0.30	3.72
-do- Accum #	209.30	221.50	-1.20	3.72
Intl Growth	101.50	107.30	-1.40	0.67
-do- Accum	180.70	191.10	-2.50	0.67
International Inc #	139.80	147.80	-1.50	3.77
-do- Accum #	232.00	245.40	-2.50	3.77
Japan	23.80	25.10	-0.80	0.01
-do- Accum	25.50	26.90	-0.90	0.01
Japan Smlr Cos	83.30	88.10	-1.30	0.04
-do- Accum	83.90	88.70	-1.30	0.04
Managed Gwth ⊕	32.80	32.92	-0.27	1.21
Managed Income #	38.40	38.78†	-0.21	3.94
Pension Ex	1513.60	1551.50	-8.80	2.76
Recovery	65.20	68.90	-0.20	2.27
-do- Accum	115.80	122.50	-0.30	2.27
Smaller Cos	79.90	84.50†	+0.30	1.94
-do- Accum	171.90	181.80†	+0.70	1.94
Sth East Asia	269.10	284.60†	-4.70	1.74
-do- Accum	365.40	386.50†	-6.30	1.74
Trustee #	58.70	62.10	-0.10	4.46
-do- Accum #	266.50	282.20	-0.40	4.46
UK Equity #	92.30	97.60	-0.70	3.57
-do- Accum #	264.00	279.10	-2.10	3.57
UK Growth	1554.70	1644.10	-10.60	1.44
-do- Accum	1758.30	1859.40	-12.00	1.44
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	157.68	157.74	-2.21	0.28
Intl Bond	60.86	63.92	+0.06	3.43
Intl Equity Growth	105.49	112.02	-1.34	0.39
N Amer Growth	197.74	209.62†	-0.12	0.26
Special Sits Growth	40.05	42.68†	-0.18	1.49
UK Growth	659.87	700.07	-2.11	1.84
-do- Accum	927.83	987.15	-2.98	1.84
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1573.40	1595.19		2.80
Income #	1290.60	1308.60		3.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	222.60	227.09†		3.50
MANEK INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0171 615 7070				
Growth Fd Acc	114.40	122.00	+0.20	
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Income #	108.40	111.70†	-0.58	5.81
Investment Pflo	228.20	236.20	-2.00	1.77
-do- Accum	275.80	288.40	-2.40	1.77
UK Select Pflo	224.50	231.40	-2.10	1.60
-do- Accum	278.30	287.00	-2.60	1.60
UK 100 Cos	174.80	174.80†	-2.30	1.58
-do- Accum	182.40	182.40†	-2.50	1.58
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	81.60	86.61†		2.60
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4848				
Intl Income	109.80	116.80†	+0.30	3.70
European	146.80	155.80†	-0.30	0.21
Income #	114.80	121.70†	+0.50	3.30

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Nth American	123.70	131.30	+0.70	0.12
Far East	137.40	145.90	-1.70	
Japan	49.19	52.22†	-1.12	
Emrging Mkts	82.61	88.33†	+0.34	0.66
Intl Growth	151.90	161.30	+0.20	0.58
UK Growth	162.50	172.50	+0.80	1.58
UK Smlr Co	72.83	77.31	+0.36	1.42
Asia Pacific	28.83	30.62	-0.26	0.10
Glob Gwth PEP	80.14	85.07	+0.09	0.57
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	122.80	130.70	+0.40	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Income	671.59	714.46†	-4.80	2.51
Global Inc	101.89	108.18†	-0.89	2.24
Brit Leaders Inc	514.84	547.70†	-4.37	1.70
Intl Leaders	316.69	336.27†	-2.82	0.31
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	398.20	419.70	-0.70	
-do- Accum	425.70	448.80	-0.70	
American Opps	161.80	171.60	+0.200	
-do- Accum	163.90	173.70	+0.180	
Bal Port	121.70	129.10	-0.20	2.30
-do- Accum	153.30	162.60	-0.30	2.30
British Blue Chip	139.10	147.70†	-0.20	2.23
-do- Accum	185.20	196.60†	-0.40	2.23
Cash	101.10	101.10		7.08
-do- Accum *	159.30	159.30	+0.100	7.08
Emerging Mkts	131.20	141.10	+0.500	0.22
-do- Accum	133.00	143.00	+0.400	0.22
European Growth	494.70	523.90	+0.700	0.10
-do- Accum	539.80	571.60	+0.800	0.10
General	797.20	847.80†	-2.30	1.90
-do- Accum	1681.00	1787.00†	-4.00	1.90
Global Bond	125.60	132.30†	+0.300	3.55
-do- Accum	178.90	187.90†	+0.300	3.55
Gold & General	127.30	136.40	+4.200	0.47
-do- Accum	131.60	141.10	+4.200	0.47
Govt Securities	104.30	107.50	+0.100	4.76
-do- Accum	235.10	242.30	+0.200	4.76
High Yield Bd	112.00	114.70†	+0.200	5.22
-do- Accum	128.70	131.90	+0.300	5.22
Income	268.70	285.00†	-0.80	3.16
-do- Accum	469.30	498.60†	-1.20	3.16
Inc Portfolio #	142.30	150.70	-0.10	4.68
-do- Accum #	164.90	174.60	-0.10	4.68
Intl Opps	705.20	752.20	-5.20	0.67
-do- Accum	961.80	1026.00	-7.00	0.67
Japan	128.80	137.40	-4.10	
-do- Accum	132.30	141.10	-4.20	
New Europe	333.90	356.20†	+0.400	0.79
-do- Accum	352.20	375.70†	+0.400	0.79
Pacific	73.88	78.81	-1.14	0.27
-do- Accum	79.78	85.01	-1.24	0.27
Recovery	612.70	653.50	+1.500	1.42
-do- Accum	820.00	874.70	+1.800	1.42
UK Smaller Cos	74.25	79.20†	+0.400	1.48
-do- Accum	87.14	92.95†	+0.500	1.48
Managed Gth	154.70	161.69	-0.80	1.57
Managed Inc	149.56	155.30	-0.10	3.56
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	87.47	91.59	-0.64	2.04
-do- Accum	99.03	103.70	-0.70	2.04
British Tst	151.80	159.00†	-1.50	1.13
-do- Accum	189.50	197.40†	-1.90	1.13
Corp Bond Inc	108.20	112.10	-0.13	5.95
-do- Accum	119.80	124.10	-0.16	5.95
Extra High Inc #	94.23	98.73	-0.38	5.45
-do- Accum #	217.40	227.60	-0.90	5.45
FTSE 100 Acc	107.00	112.00	-1.10	1.53
FTSE 100 Dist	97.51	102.16	-1.00	1.53
Gilt & Fxd Int	60.73	63.25†	+0.05	5.76
-do- Accum	209.10	217.50†	+0.20	5.76
High Yield #	328.10	343.80	-1.30	4.99
-do- Accum #	956.20	1002	-3.00	4.99
Household Russ	128.40	138.10	-0.90	1.14
Income #	456.30	477.80	-2.90	3.44
-do- Accum #	1126	1179	-7.00	3.44
Money Market IST	49.66	49.66	+0.02	6.46
-do- Accum	89.23	89.23	+0.04	6.46
Monthly Income	130.50	136.60†	-0.50	3.57
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	198.40	208.90	-2.09	1.55
European Growth	214.60	222.50	-1.10	
Gilt & Fixed	118.60	125.70	+0.10	5.58
Income	154.40	164.30	-1.80	3.15
Japan Growth	32.56	34.54	+0.14	
Managed	109.70	115.60	-1.00	2.07
Money Market	103.70	110.00	+0.10	4.96
North American	154.80	164.10	-0.30	
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	178.00	189.40	-1.69	1.58
European Growth	201.20	213.30	-1.10	
Gilt & Fixed Int	110.10	116.60	+0.20	5.64
Income	151.20	160.80	-0.90	3.15
Japan Growth	32.67	34.63	+0.14	
Managed	103.60	110.40	-0.80	2.07
Money Market	95.60	101.30		4.97
North American	138.40	146.70	+0.20	...
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	175.50	186.70	-1.70	1.59
European Growth	196.80	208.60	-1.08	
Gilt & Fixed Int	98.15	104.10	+0.10	5.69
Income	147.00	156.40	-0.98	3.15

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Growth	33.38	35.38	+0.16	
Managed	107.80	115.65	-0.98	2.07
Money Market	85.91	91.06	+0.08	5.01
North American	154.00	164.70	+0.20	
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	656.70	694.60	-2.20	
European Gwth	758.00	804.20	-9.50	
-do- Accum	766.30	813.00	-9.60	
Intl Gwth	293.50	310.50†	-2.40	
UK Equity Gth	307.60	326.30	-2.70	3.11
Do Accum	433.40	461.80	-3.70	3.11
UK Growth Inc	187.40	194.60†	-1.30	2.59
-do- Accum	199.90	203.60†	-1.40	2.59
UK Intl Tech Inc	276.40	294.50†	-2.38	2.23
-do- Accum	353.60	376.70†	-2.99	2.23
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	417.10	440.90†	-1.50	0.77
Japan Tracker	44.90	47.37	-1.49	
Asian Tracker	143.10	154.60	-1.60	0.42
Mngd Pfolio Inc	240.60	255.90	-1.60	1.40
Mngd Pfolio Acc	269.70	285.80	-1.70	1.40
Deposit Inc	180.21	180.21†	+0.04	6.95
Europe	293.90	314.00†	+0.90	
Generic	258.20	279.70	+1.10	1.97
High Income	22.57	23.94	-0.13	10.00
Japan Growth	72.29	76.70†	-1.34	
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 033				
American Growth	85.37	87.64†	+0.44	
Equity Income #	146.30	150.10†	-0.30	3.33
European	122.80	128.10	+0.30	
Smaller Cos	108.10	112.90	+0.10	1.19
W'wide Eqty	95.88	98.84†	-8.51	
Global Bond	40.57	41.01†	-0.03	4.51
UK Growth	151.30	155.50	-0.50	1.85
Pacific Growth	74.85	76.62	-0.81	1.80
Japan Growth	80.45	81.82	-0.89	
OEICS				
Portfolio Acc A ‡	52.39	...	-0.18	3.32
Portfolio Inc A ‡	52.36	...	-0.18	3.32
Gilt Acc A ‡	50.85	...	+0.02	6.00
Gilt Inc A ‡	50.85	...	+0.02	6.00
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	218.67	230.50	-2.61	1.55
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
American Dist	170.10	179.00	+0.40	0.01
European Dist	228.10	240.10	-2.90	0.13
Far East Dist	129.30	136.10†	-2.40	0.05
Global Care Dist	117.40	123.60	-0.30	0.08
Oseas Dist	1233.10	1298.00†	-17.00	0.18
-do- Accum	1904.80	1989.00	-22.00	0.18
UK Dist	608.10	640.10	-4.80	1.70
-do- Accum	1265.80	1332.40	-10.10	1.70
UK Extra Inc Dist	126.20	132.80†	-0.70	2.02
Wwide Dist	136.30	144.00	-1.80	0.11
Wwide Inc Dist	107.20	112.80	-1.50	1.48
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 0870 600 6142 Admin Enq: 0870 603 6188				
Europe Inc	120.23	126.89†	-1.82	0.19
Fund of Funds Inc	85.51	90.25	-0.71	0.51
North America Inc	90.65	95.67	-0.47	
UK Equity Gth Inc	100.62	106.20	-0.58	1.07
-do- Accum	111.62	117.81	-0.64	1.07
UK General Inc	92.44	97.56	-0.61	1.12
-do- Accum	104.90	110.71	-0.70	1.12
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	50.44	53.11	+0.02	5.33
UK Income Inc	92.26	97.37†	-0.50	1.88
UK Smlr Cos Inc	157.10	165.80	+0.41	0.99
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	74.73	79.50	-0.29	
-do- Accum	75.31	80.11	-0.29	
Bond	136.13	144.53	-0.08	4.84
Cash Income	51.10	51.10†	+0.03	6.84
-do- Accum	74.10	74.10	+0.03	6.64
Challenger	100.63	103.83	-0.42	0.85
Distributor	149.86	158.21†	+0.50	1.93
European	92.76	98.88	-0.88	
Exp't Fd. GBP	101.83	101.92	+0.11	2.29
Foundation	148.61	158.08†	-1.02	0.92
General Inc	294.59	313.38	-2.05	1.91
General Acc	301.79	321.05	-2.69	1.01
Growth Inc	191.95	204.09	-4.11	0.82
Growth Acc	200.62	213.42	-4.29	0.82
Higher Income Inc	48.92	52.04†	-0.45	3.67
-do- Accum	63.14	67.16†	-0.58	3.67
High Yield Bond #	100.80	105.15†	-0.03	2.18
Income	400.84	426.42	-3.19	2.09
Internatl	189.86	197.77		1.04
Intl Gwth	48.42	51.51	-0.22	
Japan	23.24	24.72	-0.64	
Oriental Inc	117.32	124.86	-2.27	0.37
-do- Accum	121.89	129.45	-2.38	0.37
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2555				
High Income #	62.89	66.54	+0.25	4.84
UK Growth	153.90	162.90		2.21
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	175.09	185.25†	-0.59	1.18
UK Equity	240.12	252.70†	-1.59	2.03
UK Equity Income #	212.36	223.45	-1.32	4.16
UK Smaller Cos	190.25	200.37	+0.88	1.19
UK Equity Growth	204.07	214.81†	-0.18	0.89
UK Index Trckg	241.99	253.40†	-0.75	1.82
Intl Index Trckg	212.36	224.13†	-1.80	0.50
International	342.17	360.18	-2.84	0.76
European	387.23	407.81†	-5.26	0.01
Pan European	246.82	259.80	-3.33	0.73
Nth American	344.92	363.07	+0.52	0.03
N Amer Smlr Cos	378.08	395.65	+0.92	
Japanese	66.10	69.58	-1.89	1.18
Pacific	164.82	173.80	-2.58	1.03
South East Asian	180.46	189.98	-1.95	1.83
Sterling Bond	110.48	116.30†	+0.19	5.76
Intl Bond	120.53	126.87	-0.32	4.38
Gilt & Convertible	121.27	127.65	+0.13	5.58
Property	96.68	101.77	+0.11	5.85
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	521.70	557.30	-2.70	
-do- Accum	554.50	592.30	-3.80	
Japan Inc	70.54	74.52	-3.51	
Nth American Inc	226.30	241.30	-0.80	
Worldwide Inc	238.29	258.58	-2.49	
HK & China Inc	151.60	162.60	-3.20	1.60
Swiss Equities Inc	138.60	147.90	-1.49	
Wwide Bond Inc	67.06	70.85†	-0.13	5.52
Emging Asia Inc	121.90	130.60	-1.20	1.79
-do- Accum	122.70	131.80	-1.40	1.79
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.43	50.43†	+0.03	6.67
Thailand Inc	49.00	53.63	+0.45	1.86
New Zealand Inc	80.41	85.67		1.84
Int Mngd PEP Inc	95.44	102.60†	-1.10	0.21
Latin Am Corp Inc	82.45	88.35	+0.07	0.82
UK Alt Sh Mkt Inc	99.72	101.20†	-0.80	1.62
Broker Unit Trusts				
Way Global Blue	98.98	105.30	+0.20	0.56
Global Portfolio	86.62	92.64	+0.91	...
Way Global Red	75.26	80.06	+0.24	0.20
March Global Gth	72.76	77.16	-0.32	0.09
AMR Brit Gwth Inc	157.60	169.00	-0.80	0.65
Temple Equity Inc	59.16	63.53	-0.67	1.23
Hadley Growth	181.50	193.10		0.26
Intl Growth Inc	73.83	78.96		
IFS Portfolio Inc	121.60	128.70	+0.30	
Roxburgh Stml Gth	77.19	82.56†		0.17
UFC Growth	79.70	85.24†	+0.10	1.06
Chatfield Port of Fds	58.21	61.76	-0.02	0.12
Pyg Intl Equity	92.86	98.34	+0.12	0.12
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	407.20	426.70	-1.70	1.12
-do- Accum	904.40	962.10	-3.70	1.12
Growth	261.50	275.20	-1.00	1.47
Income	383.60	408.10	-1.30	2.80
Intl Equity	343.80	365.70	-1.30	0.22
-do- Accum	386.10	410.70	-1.40	0.22
Equity Income #	103.40	110.00	-0.38	3.99
Equity Growth	136.49	145.10	-0.50	0.95
New Europe	154.30	164.10	-0.20	
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	880.37	939.75	-6.45	0.26
-do- Accum	889.47	949.47	-6.52	0.26
Income #	668.28	714.06	-4.62	3.03
Wwide Recovery	577.48	616.99	-3.24	0.19
Amer Growth Inc	410.93	436.76†	-0.97	0.01
-do- Accum	410.93	436.70	-0.97	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	338.83	362.18	-1.81	0.01
Far Este Gth Inc	234.94	251.28	-2.46	1.89
-do- Accum	239.67	256.34	-2.51	1.89
Euro Gwth Inc	293.83	313.40	-2.10	0.01
-do- Accum	294.84	314.49	-2.11	0.01
UK Growth Inc	163.45	174.75†	-0.44	1.90
-do- Accum	183.86	195.71	-0.50	1.90
High Income #	172.74	184.51	-1.08	3.36
Jap Gwth Inc	132.77	141.97†	-2.22	0.42
-do- Accum	132.77	141.97	-2.22	0.42
PEP Bond	67.73	70.78		6.57
PEP Growth	194.29	207.36	-1.20	0.34
Asian Sm Mkts Inc	91.69	98.07	-1.39	0.01
-do- Accum	92.52	98.96	-1.39	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	265.39	282.76	-1.18	0.01
-do- Accum	265.39	282.76	-1.18	0.01
Global Bond	53.06	56.27†	-0.02	4.63
UK Smaller Cos Inc	132.73	141.96	+0.10	1.76
-do- Accum	143.77	153.77	+0.12	1.76
Lat Am Gwth Inc	40.73	43.49	+0.06	0.07
-do- Accum	41.39	44.19	+0.06	0.07
World Inc PEP #	53.93	57.07†	-0.22	3.27
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3927				
American	182.13	193.75	-0.49	
European	142.47	151.56†	+0.80	
Global	59.97	63.80	-0.22	
Pacific	41.87	44.17	-0.39	
UK Inc & Gth	110.72	117.70†	+0.45	1.02
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 0171 588 0880				
Asia	42.41	46.18	-0.10	
Emerg Mkts	43.38	46.03†	+0.17	0.35
Euro Fund	61.05	64.77	+0.27	
Fund of Funds	242.40	255.20	-0.10	0.02
High Income #	65.97	69.34†	+0.13	5.05
Performance	59.76	63.41	+0.11	
PREMIER PORTFOLIO MGRS LTD				
01483 456 832				
Special Sits	258.80	276.80	+0.30	0.34
Dividend	145.50	155.60	+0.70	3.21
Inv Gth & Inc	304.50	327.90	-0.40	0.55
UK & Gen	68.50	73.26†	+0.19	0.32
Fund of Funds	90.71	97.00†	+0.08	
Bal Growth	83.03	86.44†	+0.29	0.08
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	220.31	236.58†	-0.40	2.20
For Prolific UT see Aberdeen Prolific UT				
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
UT Dealing: 0345 406060 Client Enq: 0345 555560				
Managed Tst	54.56	56.54†	-0.48	1.77
Cash Haven Inc	101.51	102.01†	+0.04	6.39
Cash Haven Acc	126.91	127.54	+0.06	6.39
Ord Trust Inc	131.38	136.14	+0.35	4.26
Ord Trust Acc	157.31	163.02	-0.62	4.25
Global Growth	133.25	141.76	-0.84	1.35
Equity Inc	115.73	123.12†	-2.19	3.80
Equity	1240.24	1319.40	-8.42	1.49
European	414.05	439.07	-6.21	0.21
High Income	115.10	122.45	-0.44	4.14
Intl Gwth	261.04	277.70	-3.46	0.84
Intl Sm Co	109.13	116.10†	-0.71	0.84
Japanese	116.28	122.97†	-4.89	
Mgd Income Tst #	51.37	53.10	+0.09	7.12
Nat Amer	349.86	362.87	-1.63	0.58
Pacific Mkts	83.47	88.57	-1.44	1.72
Premier Inc	51.51	53.61	+0.07	5.65
Sm Cos	134.41	142.99	+0.06	1.55
Spec Sits	171.36	182.19	-1.14	1.56
UK Growth	209.29	222.65†	-1.59	1.45
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	111.94	117.71†	-0.18	3.87
Investment Trust	148.47	156.12†	+3.44	0.32
UK Smaller Cos	136.92	143.98	+0.70	1.77
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
Brach Lib	494.70	524.80	-1.60	1.81
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 0171 623 1000 Client Services: 0800 124 314				
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	38.64	40.35	-0.25	
Cash	48.63	50.85	+0.01	5.44
Emerging Mkts	48.49	50.64	-0.84	
Europe	92.55	96.65	+0.50	
Global Fixed Int #	49.47	51.66	-0.23	4.37

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan	29.20	30.49	-0.25	
North America	94.09	98.79	-0.18	
UK	92.52	98.12	+0.49	...
UK Equity Inc #	84.70	88.46	+0.32	2.75
UK Fixed Int #	55.91	58.39	-0.04	6.19
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	67.80	70.13	+0.04	
Pep Inc Port #	67.92	70.36	+0.17	2.51
Five Arrows Global Investment Funds				
A Shares				
Asian Opps ‡	38.29		-0.29	
Asia Pacific ‡	37.09		-0.54	0.84
Europe ‡	55.97		-0.17	
Japan ‡	38.61		-0.90	
Latin America ‡	41.20		+0.17	
North America ‡	55.27		-0.22	
UK Eq Income #	58.97		-0.17	3.89
UK Major Cos ‡	59.14		-0.12	0.69
UK Smaller Cos ‡	63.26		+0.16	0.61
ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE UT MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0870 601 8183 Dealing: 0870 601 6063				
Royal & Sun Alliance Trusts				
Equity	1600.00	1693.00	-14.00	...
Equity Income #	160.20	169.50	-1.30	3.53
European	259.70	274.80	-4.10	...
High Inc-Bond	52.13	52.21	-0.03	5.72
Portfolio	149.60	158.30	-1.50	0.95
UK Index Tckg	285.70	302.30	-2.40	2.48
UK Leading Cos	120.90	127.90	-1.48	1.65
UK Smaller Cos	159.80	169.10	+1.20	1.83
Royal Life Trusts				
High Inc Dist	234.60	249.80†	-1.80	2.52
Intl Cautionary	71.85	76.17†	-0.28	4.09
Intl Growth	98.85	104.30	-1.80	
Intl Spec	88.23	93.86	-0.98	
Managed	242.00	260.29	-2.10	...
Pacific Basin	61.57	65.65	-1.26	0.58
United States	192.60	203.80†	+0.30	0.26
Sun Alliance Trusts				
European	220.60	235.90	-3.90	...
Far East	128.90	138.40	-2.70	...
North America	276.10	297.40	-0.20	...
Wwide Bond	55.12	57.94	-0.13	4.52
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	276.10	294.50	-0.10	0.92
European Growth	247.70	262.90†	+0.80	0.65
Far East Growth	102.40	111.80	+0.10	2.44
Japan Growth	85.40	90.84	-0.90	0.62
Special Sits	288.70	307.10†	+1.80	1.79
UK Growth	147.50	156.90	+1.00	2.15
Intl Growth	362.30	385.50	+0.50	1.61
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 8500				
Far East Inc	129.30	137.20	-2.20	0.88
Gr Euro Prog Inc	643.70	671.60	-2.80	0.58
-do- Accum	1004.00	1082.00	-4.80	0.80
Growth Inc	204.20	216.10†	-1.40	0.47
-do- Accum	210.30	222.50†	-1.40	0.47
International Inc	544.50	576.20	-3.20	0.61
-do- Accum	756.40	798.40	-4.40	0.61
Nth Am & Intl Inc	580.60	600.40	-1.30	0.85
UK Gen Prog Inc	383.60	395.60		1.08
-do- Accum	428.20	450.10		1.08
UK High Inc Inc	206.70	218.70	-1.30	3.53
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Grth	64.82	68.78		0.75
European Grth	138.92	147.79	-1.24	1.80
Global Bd	58.50	62.02†		5.00
Japan	43.56	46.74		
UK Grth	124.48	132.34	+0.80	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smlr Cos	193.50	205.80†	+1.40	
Cash	145.60	145.60†		6.83
China Dragon	61.63	65.56	-0.68	0.58
Commodity	115.20	122.60†	+1.40	
Emerging Mkts	40.12	42.68	+0.04	0.40
European Gwth	362.40	385.50	+1.30	
Euro Smlr Cos	95.62	103.80	+1.60	
Extra Income #	73.86	78.54†	+0.20	4.71
Far Eastern	73.15	77.82	-1.46	
FE Sm Cos	36.62	38.32	-0.59	0.29
Financial Secs	494.80	526.20	-0.28	0.72
Gold & Exploration	38.36	40.81	+0.82	
Growth	628.20	637.40†	+4.40	0.41
High Income	54.25	54.25†	-0.03	7.05
Intl Bond	153.70	162.40†	-0.49	5.18
ITU	299.20	318.30	-0.70	0.49
Japan Growth	113.00	120.16	-2.88	
Japan Smaller	94.76	100.80	-1.83	
Korea	20.24	21.53	-0.79	
Latin America	51.05	54.31	+0.27	0.37
Mastertrust	82.40	82.81	+0.21	0.75
Premier Eq Gwth	249.87	265.59	+1.50	1.80
Premier Eq Inc #	526.20	569.80	+3.10	3.25
SE Asia	32.90	35.10	-0.30	0.66
Smlr Cos	51.45	54.74	+0.30	1.00
UK & O'seas	257.40	273.08	+3.10	0.82
UK Eqty Gth	123.60	131.80	+0.80	0.86
UK Eqty Inc #	372.50	398.30	+1.80	3.28
UK Gth & Inc #	445.60	476.00	+2.50	2.17
UK Sm Cos	77.50	82.53†	+0.50	0.78
US Growth	316.60	336.60†	+0.20	
New Europe ‡	56.25		+0.18	
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	484.45	512.15	-2.11	0.69
-do- Accum	539.45	570.29	-2.35	0.46
European Gwth	132.42	140.29	-2.82	0.28
Euro Smlr Cos	145.05	153.12	-1.10	0.02
-do- Accum	149.07	158.07	-1.12	0.03
Far Eastern Gth	87.01	92.61	-1.25	0.15
-do- Accum	88.78	94.89	-1.30	0.15
Gilt & Fixed Int #	57.58	60.60†	-0.01	7.07
Global Bond #	43.60	45.45	-0.03	4.84
-do- Accum #	56.02	58.58	-0.43	4.84
Global Emrg Mkts	49.82	52.92	-0.29	0.01
-do- Accum	49.66	52.87	-0.30	0.01
Income #	976.25	1014.00	-4.28	3.89
-do- Accum #	2063.93	2201.44	-15.36	3.89
Japan Smlr Cos	208.45	222.34	-5.13	
-do- Accum	208.07	222.76	-5.14	
Japan Enterprise	45.45	48.47	-1.41	
Pacific Gwth	107.72	114.90†	-1.89	0.94
-do- Accum	113.04	120.59†	-1.92	0.94
Portfolio	118.57	126.89†	-1.18	1.93
-do- Accum	134.77	143.29†	-1.25	1.93
Small	16.76	17.87	-0.04	0.72
-do- Accum	16.76	17.87	-0.04	0.72
Strategic Inc	124.82	132.64†	-0.81	1.82
Strategic Acc	128.58	136.87†	-0.94	1.82
Tokyo	98.85	105.43†	-2.32	
-do- Accum	99.84	105.50†	-2.54	
UK Enterprise	458.72	489.30	-4.56	1.75
-do- Accum	585.10	624.18	-5.84	1.75
UK Equity	422.20	450.34	-4.60	1.89
-do- Accum	878.67	937.35	-9.58	1.89
UK Smaller Cos	455.61	485.98	+0.88	0.80
-do- Accum	547.30	583.79	+0.69	0.80
US Smlr Cos	370.74	395.35	+1.88	
-do- Accum	370.74	395.35	+1.88	
Institutional Funds				
European	432.82	448.50	-2.79	0.69
-do- Accum	495.46	513.40	-3.20	0.69
Euro Smlr Cos	46.70	48.56	+0.07	0.77
-do- Accum	51.05	53.08	+0.08	0.77
Global Equity Inc	113.78	118.01	-0.37	0.83
Japan Smlr Cos	20.59	21.44	-0.38	0.25
-do- Accum	20.82	21.69	-0.38	0.25
Mngd Balanced	273.39	284.68†	-1.59	2.75
-do- Accum	324.08	347.91†	-1.90	2.75
Overseas Equity	241.73	259.32	-2.19	0.83
-do- Accum	258.65	267.04	-2.24	0.83
Oseas Eqty Inc	138.76	142.48†	-0.42	0.73
-do- Accum	146.19	152.20†	-0.45	0.73
Pacific	182.59	192.19	-3.97	2.45
-do- Accum	200.70	213.30	-3.55	2.45
Recovery	3105.82	3236.23	-6.49	2.56
-do- Accum	3547.82	3685.84	-7.41	2.56
UK Index	264.97	276.01†	-0.81	2.47
-do- Accum	354.39	369.16†	-1.08	2.47
UK Small Cos	180.42	187.93†	+0.09	2.31
-do- Accum	205.37	214.99†	+0.10	2.31
US Smlr Cos	86.26	91.76	+0.03	0.34
-do- Accum	91.14	94.77	+0.04	0.34
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 284 2200				
Equity Income	86.06	91.01	+0.02	1.54
Equity Trust	113.98	120.51	+0.42	1.89
Equity Strategy	116.69	123.29	+0.63	1.05
European Opps	158.74	167.87	+0.42	0.21
UK Smaller Cos	96.24	101.77	+0.17	0.98
Madison Inc	98.10	101.68	+0.05	5.98
Japanese	45.43	48.04	-1.48	0.04
Asia Pacific	85.28	90.16	-1.80	1.35
American	196.76	207.76	-0.64	0.54
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	35.76	35.76	+0.02	6.98
UK Eq Gwth Inc	85.73	91.28	-0.80	2.12
-do- Accum	119.21	126.90	-1.11	2.12
Intl Income	378.89	403.43	-3.08	1.31
-do- Accum	678.89	722.86	-5.48	1.31
European	158.50	168.28	-1.76	0.04
Japan	45.84	48.58	-1.27	
American	148.18	156.65	-0.34	0.75
Far East Tact	84.60	88.81	-1.02	1.94
Ethical Inc	52.20	55.83	+0.05	1.39
-do- Accum	61.48	65.75	+0.06	1.39
UK Blue Chip Inc	56.74	60.48†	-0.47	2.08
-do- Accum	70.74	75.42†	-0.59	2.08
UK Eqty Inc	61.05	65.13	-0.37	3.19
-do- Accum	92.87	98.85	-0.56	3.19
UK Global Inc	66.19	70.51†	-0.44	1.34
-do- Accum	73.95	78.78†	-0.49	1.34
Wwide Tact	111.85	118.95	-0.69	0.99
Europe Tactical	116.86	124.73	-0.95	0.48
Technology	205.82	218.50†	-0.63	0.41
Dist Inc	31.43	32.35	-0.13	5.04
-do- Accum	33.65	35.62	-0.13	5.04
UK Ext Inc Inc	26.50	27.98†	-0.02	5.95
-do- Accum	29.83	31.29†	-0.02	5.95
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	720.50	768.60	-5.30	1.58
American	487.80	516.20	-3.00	0.16
Pacific	300.09	320.90	-7.40	0.36
European	919.60	981.60	-13.10	0.43
Worldwide	105.30	112.30	-1.38	0.24
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	470.49	500.40	-4.80	1.44
-do- Accum	637.20	677.80	-4.80	1.44
UK Sh Co Eq Inc	313.60	333.60	+3.40	1.39
-do- Accum	392.60	417.60	+3.40	1.39
Select Opptys Inc	114.70	122.00†	-0.80	1.39
Income Plus Inc	122.10	129.80†	-0.80	3.08
European Inc	833.60	872.20	-11.00	0.48
-do- Accum	735.60	770.80	-11.00	0.48
Far Eastern Inc	126.98	134.90	-2.00	1.30
-do- Accum	148.90	157.40	-2.00	1.36
Japanese Inc	41.92	44.58	-1.11	
Nth American Inc	490.49	527.10	-0.20	0.03
-do- Accum	549.90	593.00	-0.20	0.03
Intl Growth Inc	260.80	277.40	-2.70	0.26
Wwide Venture Inc	114.48	121.60†	-1.18	0.46
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
0131 655 3794				
Equity Inc	816.70	854.70	+3.10	1.68
-do- Accum	979.80	1025.00	+5.00	1.68
UK High Inc #	298.40	316.30	+1.60	2.85
-do- Accum #	479.50	505.60	+2.60	2.85
Europe Inc	[illegible]	757.10	+8.20	0.05
Nth Amer Inc	431.30	455.80	-2.20	
Global Inc	325.50	353.40	-0.60	0.44
Global Acc	342.80	361.80	-0.70	0.44
UK Spec Sits Inc	174.18	183.90	+1.00	1.47
South East Asia	143.30	151.20	-1.30	0.72
Cash Trust Inc	101.70	101.70		6.89
UK Smlr Cos Inc	148.40	156.80		1.68
-do- Accum	159.80	168.80		1.68
Intl Bond Inc	86.70	91.65		5.35
International Stral	98.86	104.70	+1.60	
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	234.50	247.30	-0.60	0.15
Nth American	187.70	197.60		
Intl Bond & Curr	136.20	145.40	-0.60	3.30
Pooled Pension	315.60	330.30	-0.80	1.87
Smaller Cos	154.60	163.10	+0.20	0.64
UK General #	233.80	245.00	-0.80	3.24
Far Eastern	62.70	66.00	-1.10	
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 6226				
Continental	135.20	142.68	-0.86	0.80
Global Gwth	101.26	106.80	-0.66	0.50
Inv Tst Port	73.46	78.14	-0.86	1.80
Managed	1712.98	1789.55	[illegible]	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pref Inc #	117.30	124.70	-0.10	6.60
Smaller Cos	326.40	347.30	-1.17	0.60
Inland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	132.61		-1.37	2.05
Sterling Reserve ‡	162.43		+0.05	7.00
Corporate Inc ‡	109.23		-0.45	6.01
Intl Pflo ‡	82.47		-1.37	
Actno ‡	82.35		0.32	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	187.39		-1.58	
European ‡	237.96		-3.09	
Global Bond ‡	90.27		-2.34	6.25
Samurai ‡	39.32		-7.59	
UK Growth ‡	142.19		-1.57	2.85
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	109.29		-0.20	2.55
Investment Trust ‡	139.57		-1.02	2.50
Top Football Fd ‡	82.56		-4.47	
Reserve Bnd Up ‡	103.96		-3.14	
Growth Reserve ‡	97.36		-0.53	3.22
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	632.50	656.40	-3.78	
Capital	193.70	203.90	+0.60	4.06
Cash	100.21	100.27†	-3.92	6.75
European	225.80	239.98	-0.10	0.78
Far Eastern	135.10	142.50	-0.10	
Growth	234.00	247.60	+1.40	0.94
Income #	188.20	199.10†	+0.60	4.61
Magnum	197.30	208.60	+0.70	1.12
Smlr Secs	787.70	812.30†	-17.10	0.05
Recognised	231.10	244.50	-0.78	1.32
SOCIETE GENERALE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dealing Desk 0171 615 0062				
UK Growth Acc	96.07	102.20	+1.60	1.50
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0800 78 11 089				
Capital Reserve	66.94	71.55	-0.09	6.50
Ethical	182.30	193.40	-0.20	0.88
European Growth	120.30	127.70	-2.50	
Income #	80.65	86.26	+0.24	3.78
Intl Growth	132.20	140.10	+1.50	0.12
Managed	122.60	129.30	+1.70	0.16
UK Growth	98.03	102.70	-0.50	1.09
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	58.12	58.42	-0.20	1.15
Global Advtg Acc	64.07	64.40	-0.20	1.16
Income Advtg Inc	50.89	51.15	+0.20	2.59
Income Advtg Acc	62.07	62.39	+0.20	2.55
UK Equity Gth Acc	152.60	161.20	+0.30	0.77
Premier Inc Inc	54.26	58.16	-0.10	5.90
Premier Inc Acc	63.17	63.39	-0.10	5.96
Managed Acc	80.05	84.56	+0.30	1.48
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	59.85	63.45	+0.30	3.41
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	82.71	87.68	+0.40	3.41
UK Ethical	52.25	54.08	-0.10	1.19
UK Smlr Cos Acc	70.71	74.96	+0.20	0.06
Standard Life Inst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	117.30	124.70	-0.60	1.23
UK Equity Gen Inc	82.55	87.71	+0.40	1.23
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	35.35	37.33		5.14
Oseas Eqty Co Acc	416.40	451.90		1.90
Nth American Acc	81.80	86.92	-0.20	0.05
Pacific Basin	33.31	35.40		1.29
European Acc	81.22	86.30	+0.70	0.28
Japan Acc	20.68	21.98	-0.20	
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7000				
Global A (NR$)	5.764	6.121		1.76
US Eqty (US$)	4.957	5.259		0.62
Far East Eqty (yen)	230.40	244.70		
FI Europe	232.80	245.40		0.99
FT N Amer (US$)	4.436	4.711		
FT Japan (yen)	136.40	144.10		
FT Asia Ex Jap (US$)	2.379	2.526		0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	681.90	719.90	-0.90	
British #	1786.00	1829.60	-11.10	2.05
Emging Mkts	170.20	181.30	+0.60	0.82
Euro Gwth Inc	141.80	150.20	-0.70	
Euro Small Co	73.94	78.71	+0.30	...
Japan	84.23	89.37	-1.40	
Asia Pacific	343.30	365.60	-2.90	1.57
-do- Accum	373.50	397.60	-3.10	1.57
Inv Trust Acc	381.40	404.30	-1.50	0.89
Mngd Equity	265.30	280.70	-1.46	1.75
Mngd Cash	96.60	96.60		6.84
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Asia Pacific	16.13	17.16†	-0.30	1.11
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	105.53	112.27†	+0.06	6
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	119.55	127.61†	+0.07	6
European	77.51	82.46	-1.16	0.20
Japan	25.46	27.09†	-0.80	0.01
Managed Assets	185.13	196	-1.70	1.82
North American	65.45	69.63	-0.21	0.23
Smlr Co's Inc	47.13	50.14	+0.14	1.32
Smlr Co's Acc	52.72	56.09	+0.15	1.32
UK Growth Inc	92.11	97.99	-0.61	1.47
UK Growth Acc	107.13	113.97	-0.94	1.47
Extra Income #	64.01	68.48	-0.49	3.98
Worldwide Gth	52.60	56.26	-0.52	0.30
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0117 986 8887				
Discretionary	69.06	73.50	+0.24	
UK Income Inc	32.82	33.43	-0.78	2.16
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	42.77	44.40	-0.21	6.09
Mngd High Yld Inc	127.70	135.80	-0.54	3.03
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	118.00	128.40	-0.90	2.29
UK Smaller Cos	51.17	54.44	+1.05	1.72
Pacific Gth Port	36.45	38.78	-0.43	0.65
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 346 794				
American	437.40	462.85	-1.63	1.00
-do- Accum	481.77	509.81	-1.79	1.00
Brit Growth	177.34	187.69†	-1.66	1.12
-do- Accum	225.45	238.57†	-2.12	1.12
European	184.83	195.59	-2.32	1.36
-do- Accum	197.42	208.91	-2.48	1.36
Extra Income #	299.23	317.70†	-2.67	3.52
-do- Accum #	580.78	614.58†	-5.17	3.52
Smaller Cos	110.95	117.41†	+0.34	0.73
-do- Accum	128.26	135.85†	+0.39	0.73
General	511.88	541.67	-3.92	1.81
-do- Accum	1118.92	1183.73	-8.57	1.31
Exempt Income	56.60	58.96	-0.63	5.37
-do- Accum	152.80	159.17	-0.68	5.32
Income #	545.12	576.84	-4.38	3.24
-do- Accum #	1320.25	1397.09	-10.49	3.24
Pacific	270.54	286.29	-3.76	0.50
-do- Accum	284.27	300.82	-6.05	0.50
International	801.39	848.03	-10.94	0.20
-do- Accum	1058.88	1120.51	-14.46	0.20
Natl Resources	131.78	139.45	-0.40	0.83
Select Opps	185.99	196.82†	-1.99	1.07
-do- Accum	247.94	262.37†	-1.33	1.07
Environmental	124.84	132.10†	-0.70	0.47
Selector	102.09	108.66	-0.72	1.26
-do- Accum	121.42	128.49	-0.85	1.26
High Income #	97.16	102.81	-0.75	3.33
-do- Accum #	139.79	147.92	-1.08	3.33
Intl Income	64.07	67.80†	-0.25	3.90
-do- Accum	90.18	95.41†	-0.38	3.90
Selector Income	86.52	91.56	-0.55	3.36
-do- Accum	114.50	121.16	-0.70	3.36
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0800 435810				
British	586.10	616.95†	-6.29	1.75
European	123.09	128.89	-0.96	1.22
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	287.77	304.52	-1.22	2.42
Glob Growth Acc	340.34	360.15	-1.45	2.42
Glob Balncd Inc	226.52	239.70	-0.97	3.64
Glob Balncd Acc	283.51	300.01	-1.22	3.64
Value Tst Inc	180.34	190.83	-0.73	1.93
Value Tst Acc	205.55	217.51	-0.84	1.93
THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 629 0652				
Capital	129.59	137.88	-2.80	0.51
International	88.41	94.05		
THREADNEEDLE INVESTMENTS				
Client Serv: 0800 0683000 Inv Serv: 0800 0684000				
Threadneedle Investment Services				
Managed Funds				
Adv Mgd Gth Acc	54.78	57.27		0.89
Bal Mgd Gth Acc	54.67	57.24		2.83
Caut Mg Gth Acc	54.81	57.36		4.14
Managed Income	54.78	57.25†		3.66
Threadneedle Investment Funds (OEIC)				
Retail Shares (Class 1)				
UK				
UK Corporate Bd ‡	52.93		-0.06	6.56
UK Equity Inc #	60.46		-0.48	3.56
UK Growth ‡	60.04		-0.42	1.34
UK Gwth & Inc ‡	55.28		-0.44	2.40
UK Money Secs ‡	50.28		+0.02	7.07
UK Monthly Inc #	58.17		-0.46	3.65
UK Select Gwth ‡	60.47		-0.38	1.51
UK Smaller Cos ‡	59.89		+0.22	0.91
International				
Amer Gwth Acc ‡	54.44		-0.15	0.10
Amer Sel Gwth ‡	56.63		-0.08	0.04
Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡	58.71		+0.12	
Asia Growth ‡	35.45		-0.32	0.19
Emg Mkt Bd Fd #	53.53		+0.19	8.50
European Growth ‡	63.22		-0.22	0.06
Euro Sel Gwth ‡	69.97		-0.30	0.06
Euro/Sm Cos Gth ‡	63.10		-0.14	
FE&Jap Gwth Acc ‡	33.64		-0.55	
Global Bond ‡	51.10		-0.01	5.89
Glb Sel Gth Acc ‡	51.79		-0.45	0.11
Japan Gwth Acc ‡	35.80		-0.86	
Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡	31.58		-0.97	
Latin Amer Gth ‡	52.38		+0.22	
Institutional Shares (Class 2) (£500,000 min)				
UK				
UK Equity Inc #	60.47		-0.48	4.20
UK Growth ‡	60.05		-0.42	1.89
UK Gwth & Inc ‡	55.30		-0.44	2.90
UK Inst Gwth ‡	60.19		-0.45	1.70
UK Quant Eqty ‡	57.70		-0.38	1.00
UK Select Gwth ‡	60.48		-0.37	2.07
UK Sm Cos Gwth ‡	59.91		+0.33	1.44
International				
Amer Gwth Acc ‡	54.59		-0.16	0.60
Amer Sel Gwth ‡	57.00		-0.08	0.54
Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡	58.20		+0.13	
Asia Growth Acc ‡	35.57		-0.32	0.69
Euro Gwth Acc ‡	63.40		-0.22	0.56
Euro Sel Gth Acc ‡	61.98		-0.29	0.56
Euro Sm Cos Gth ‡	63.20		-0.15	
FE & Jap Gth Acc ‡	33.72		-0.55	
Global Bond ‡	51.15		-0.01	6.39
Japan Gwth Acc ‡	35.10		-0.87	
Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡	31.62		-0.96	
Latin Amer Gth ‡	52.43		+0.23	
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 388				
UK Eq Inc Acc #	474.13	504.39	-3.86	3.24
UK Equity Gwth	518.89	543.90†	-4.84	1.37
European	273.18	290.62	-3.69	0.25
Nth American	123.08	130.92	-0.43	0.02
Far Eastern	57.61	61.29	-1.27	0.36
Money	76.63	76.63	+0.04	6.68
Fixed Interest #	92.67	98.51	+0.05	7.09
Index Linked Gilt	84.48	89.62†	+0.17	1.38
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 955955				
Income Trust	115.42	118.92	-0.02	5.70
Pens Growth	146.19	146.19		
Pens Inc Protd	117.10	118.10		
UK Index Tracking ⊕	106.00	108.05†	-0.55	1.50
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0131 551 7455				
Australasian Gold	34.38	36.14†		
Pacific Basin	23.36	24.68		
Global Bond (US$)	0.9754	1.0163		
Penny Share	45.61	48.01		
Japan Smlr Cos	27.22	28.65		
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Short Dtd Gilt	132.70	134.10		
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.8236	0.8321	+0.01	
Gilt Income	52.04	53.76†	+0.03	6.20
Gilt Growth	90.26	91.75	+0.13	
Sterling Bond	52.87	53.70†	-0.03	5.90
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	73.28	77.78		1.53
UK Stockmarket	145.00	154.10		1.85
Corporate Bd Inc	51.26	51.39		5.38
-do- Accum	56.86	57.10		5.38

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. ... No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. ⊕ Exit Charge.

Equities lower at the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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NLA

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 5% 3%

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ♣ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data; Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

The smaller enterprise is still wary of graduates

By Sally Watts

SMALL independent business owners remain unconvinced that graduates can contribute to their company, despite the success of Shell Technology Enterprise Programme (Step), which puts second-year students into small firms for eight weeks each summer.

This year Step is determined that most of the 1,500 companies benefiting from the programme will be those that have never employed a graduate full-time.

Research by Paul Westhead, head of Stirling University's Department of Entrepreneurship, shows that larger companies are more likely to sign up Step graduates. Fewer than 18 per cent of ex-Step students were offered full-time jobs in small private firms, he told a conference on training in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) at Warwick University this month.

Participating in Step shows employers that students are "capable and committed", said Professor Westhead. "The irony is that these signals were received more strongly by larger enterprises ... Step students were markedly more likely to have taken their first job in larger businesses. In this sense, the programme does not, in the short run, satisfy its objective of getting more graduates into SMEs."

Students, he says, must be convinced that small firms can provide the same remuneration and opportunities as big companies. "Policymakers must appreciate that only a small proportion of very small firms that are aware of the benefits of graduates ... have the necessary financial resources."

Step firms that have never recruited graduates in the past are less likely to do so after the programme.

Liz Rhodes, director of Step, says: "Small businesses are still suspicious of graduates and what they can offer. We have to show there's something in it for them." She hopes larger companies will convince supply chains that graduates will improve their output.

Professor Westhead said that Step — which has just received £600,000 over three years from the DTI — fully satisfied host companies, improving their IT and computer systems, technology applications and marketing plans.

Step: tel 01623 469030.

When selling toy horses proves far from a game

Mark Andrews gets the lowdown on a stable for the tiniest breed

ANDREW HASSON



Tikki Adorian with a three-year-old skewbald filly just 26 inches tall. One has been sold for £12,000

Small businesses do not come much smaller than the one run by 55-year-old Tikki Adorian: about 30 inches.

She breeds miniature horses at her Toy Horse International Stud nestling in the West Sussex countryside near Billingshurst. They go to Australia, the US and the Continent. At the end of last year two went to the Falkland Islands.

The world's tiniest but perfectly formed horses are the same size as a large dog. Mrs Adorian has a herd of 150 brood mares and 24 stallions working for her, producing a steady average of 150 yearlings annually.

There is no shortage of customers. The horses sell from £200 to £700 for a colt and up to £1,600 for a filly. Mrs Adorian once sold one to an American for £12,000. Price depends on their size and their bloodlines, which are as important as in the world of the thoroughbred.

She says: "An amazing cross-section of society buys toy horses, from someone who just wants one as a pet to someone who wants to set up a breeding establishment. I have been breeding since 1961 and over that period we have had people from all walks of life — lawyers, doctors, actors, military personnel — buying from us.

"We have a thriving export market but it fluctuates. A few years ago America was our main outlet. That has changed in the past ten years to Europe."

Buyers do not, however, acquire toy horses on impulse as some people buy dogs. "A horse really is for life," she says.

"We have never had anyone bring a horse back saying that they do not want it any more or they can't cope. But we do say to people that if their circumstances change we will try to find another home for it. We do not encourage impulse buyers and we have become expert at spotting them.

"The horses are not house pets. Despite their size, miniatures are horses and you cannot house-train horses. To try to keep them in a house is ridiculous, especially if you value your carpets. They should be housed in their own barns where they can have other horses around them."

The stud employs four people full-time and there are eight part-timers. Mrs Adorian says: "The worst part for me in running a stud is the paperwork, which includes registrations and keeping track of pedigrees. Rather than sitting in the office struggling with bureaucracy, I would sooner be in the fields and stables looking after the horses."

Most foals are born in April to June. Mrs Adorian says: "It's a wonderful feeling when they foal; every new arrival gives you a zip. The best time is when they struggle to their feet minutes after they are born. Within a few months they are totally self-sufficient. My life's ambition is to make sure that British bloodlines are preserved."

Toy Horse International Stud is on 01403 822639.

Virtual conversation with the minister

By Rodney Hobson

SMALL businesses will be able to have a virtual conversation with Barbara Roche, the Minister for Small Firms, next Monday. She will hold a half-hour question and answer session on the Enterprise Zone on the Internet.

Mrs Roche will be on the site from 5pm to 5.30pm. Site visitors will be able to pose their own questions or see questions and answers downloaded by the minister. Owner-managers can also submit their questions in advance.

Topics that are likely to dominate the session include statutory right to interest on late payments, the need for simple access to business information and advice, the millennium computer bug and the use of information technology to gain a competitive edge.

The Enterprise Zone was established in November to fulfil a manifesto commitment at the 1997 general election. The aim was to encourage small businesses to take full advantage of IT.

Companies submitting an application to set up their own Website within the zone are screened by an independent panel. Criteria include whether the site is likely to be useful and how often it will be updated.

The Enterprise Zone boasts more than 100 Websites. The zone is at http://www.enterprisezone.org.uk

☐ Business Links will today start to measure the impact of their service on the profitability, turnover, exports, sales and number of employees of their client companies. The assessment will take about two years to produce significant data. Links will also have to meet tougher criteria in order to be accredited.

Firms get advice on how to keep it in the family

A GROUP has been set up in Scotland to help family businesses to continue and to decide who will take over on the boss's retirement (Brian Collett writes).

To assess family business problems, a questionnaire was sent to 7,000 firms by BDO Stoy Hayward, the accountancy firm, and the Glasgow, Edinburgh and Motherwell chambers of commerce.

After analysis of the 1,200 replies, Stewart Clark, of Stoy, said: "There is a lot of family squabbling and no planning. Often the incumbent does not want to retire, and if he does he makes no provision. Communication is dreadful, and people don't like to decide who will run the business."

One result is that only 30 per cent of family businesses pass to the second generation and only 13 per cent to the third.

Stoy formed the advice group with Glasgow Caledonian University's Centre for Family Enterprise to raise awareness of the issues and to conduct open discussions, with contributions from an accountant, a banker, a lawyer and a family adviser. After the first session, which is free for centre members, the group puts a plan to the business.

Mr Clark says successful handovers can be done, and that writing a family constitution, to show who can own shares and who does what, takes the emotion out of discussions.

BRIEFINGS

Professor David Storey, director of the small and medium enterprises centre at Warwick Business School, is the 1998 winner of the International Award for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Research. The award is made annually by two Swedish government bodies. Professor Storey is the first person outside the US to win.

☐ A free factsheet giving a step-by-step approach to meeting the requirements of the Data Protection Bill has been produced by Veale Wasbrough, Bristol solicitors. Copies from Rosemary Collins on 0117-925 2020.

☐ A workbook to help managers of smaller businesses to buy, set up, and get the most from office computers has been published by the Management Charter Initiative, a non-profitmaking body backed by industry and the Government, in conjunction with the Federation of Small Businesses. *How do I manage information technology* is free by faxing 0171-872 9099.

☐ Sage, the accountancy software company, has published *The Sage guide to setting up and managing your own business*. It costs £13 from good high street bookshops.

☐ More than two thirds of lending to small businesses is now for a fixed-term loan rather than an overdraft, the British Bankers' Association says. Nearly a third of term lending is at a fixed rate, according to figures for the second half of 1997.

☐ The effect of the transport system on business competitiveness is being assessed by a task force created by the British Chambers of Commerce. The task force is considering complaints that road and rail services are inadequate for freight, business travel and journeys to and from work and is reviewing the progress of projects such as the improvement of the West Coast rail route. Preliminary findings will be submitted for consideration by the Government in its integrated transport White Paper due out in May.



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The scope and projected timescales of the project are already detailed in an outline requirement document already issued to a selected number of potential suppliers who responded to OJEC Notice (231 P142) Document ref. 148736-97 for the supply to Strathclyde Fire Board of an Integrated Command, Control and Communications system.

The outline requirement document for information and pro forma tender documents for completion and return by 17.4.98 will be supplied following receipt of a written request with a non returnable fee of £30 Sterling plus VAT payable by cheque to Strathclyde Fire Board to -

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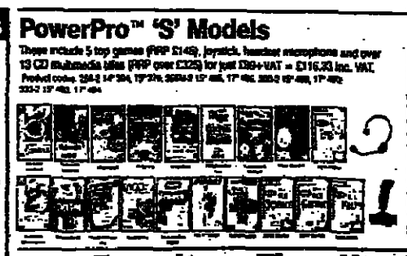
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Ministerial powers better remedy

Ex parte P

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, *Lord Justice Otton* and Sir Christopher Staughton

[Judgment March 24]

The secretary of state's default powers under section 7D of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, inserted by section 50 of the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990, were a more appropriate means of redress than judicial review in deciding whether a local authority had exercised its social services functions and followed directions and *guidance in the provision of* accommodation for asylum seekers under the National Assistance Act 1948.

The Court of Appeal so stated when dismissing an application for leave to move for judicial review by P and 16 other Albanian asylum seekers from decisions made by Westminster City Council in January 1998 to house them outside Greater London on the east coast.

Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Stephen Knafler for the applicants; Mr Roger Henderson, QC and Mr Clive H. Jones for the council.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that, in the light of an earlier decision on section 7D of the 1970 Act in *R v Devon County Council, Ex parte Baker* ([1995] 1 All ER 73), Mr Pannick had submitted that there were two legal issues which required authoritative resolution:

1 Whether or not asylum seekers had a right to be informed of their entitlement under the National Assistance Act 1948 (Choice of Accommodation) Directions 1992 (Appendix I Department of Health *Circular MO.LAC (93)10) to be* housed in preferred accommodation where such was available and where the other conditions were met and

2 Whether local authorities were under a duty to take active steps to *find accommodation for asylum* seekers in London.

Mr Henderson submitted on the contrary that the real dispute was on the facts, the question being whether or not there was in truth alternative accommodation available which the applicants should have been given the opportunity of choosing, or at least attempting to find.

That question fell to be decided in the context of the secretary of state's own directions and guidance which expressly contemplated that choice should be maximised only as far as possible within available resources.

His Lordship had reached the clear conclusion that the more *convenient expeditious and effective* course was that of applying to the secretary of state to exercise his default power under section 7D of the 1970 Act.

That was, par excellence, an area of administration in which the secretary of state rather than the courts should be closely involved.

First, it was the secretary of state who funded the housing of asylum seekers under section 21 of the 1948 Act.

Second, it was the proper construction and application of his *own directions and guidance* which lay at the heart of the present application.

Third, it was at the secretary of state's instance that the appeal from the Court of Appeal's decision in *R v Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council, Ex parte M* (*The Times* February 19, 1997), which was to have been heard by the House of Lords last month was adjourned, specifically because the government was currently conducting a review of the treatment of asylum seekers and did not wish to risk a final judgment depriving asylum seekers of all protection until a decision had been made as to what, if any, alternative arrangements should be made.

Furthermore, his Lordship accepted the submission that the real dispute was on the facts. Whether or not other accommodation in Greater London was available for all asylum seekers was really a question of fact; it could not be determined by deciding whether or not the local authority was under a duty to use its best endeavours to *find to take active steps to find* additional accommodation in London, whatever precisely those duties might involve.

SIR CHRISTOPHER STAUGHTON, *agreeing that the* secretary of state should decide the substantive issue if required to do so, raised a matter of procedure.

At the start of the hearing, the applicants had asked for an order not to publish the names of the asylum seekers and the council concurred. The court had been referred to section 11 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981.

His Lordship noted that that section did not create a power to allow a name to be withheld from the public. It recognised that where such a power existed it created an ancillary power to prohibit publication of a name: see paragraph 59/132 of *The Supreme Court Practice 1997*.

The allied topic of when a court could sit in camera was raised in *Scott v Scott* ([1913] AC 417). The test was whether the parties would be deterred from seeking justice if names were revealed to the public.

When both sides agreed that information should be kept from the public that was when the court had to be most vigilant.

In the present case the question was whether the applicants would be deterred from seeking better accommodation if their names were known. On that basis the order was made.

It was important that such orders should not be made as a *matter of course but that* the burden identified in *Scott* should be fulfilled.

Lord Justice Otton agreed.

Solicitors: Clore & Co; Mr Colin Wilson, *Westminster*.

Construing voluntary arrangement

Johnson and Another v Davies and Another

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, *Lord* Justice Ward and Lord Justice Chadwick

[Judgment March 18]

It was not true that as a matter of principle no term in a voluntary arrangement made under the Insolvency Act 1986 could have the effect of releasing a co-debtor or surety from his liabilities. The effect of a voluntary arrangement had to be determined by construing its terms.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment when dismissing an appeal by Susan Davies and Nicholas Cole against the order of Mr Justice Jacob ([1997] 1 WLR 1511) allowing the appeal of Robert and Anne Johnson against a decision of Deputy District Judge Radcliffe that Mrs Davies and Mr Cole had been released from liability under their covenant for indemnity against claims arising under a lease.

Mr Clifford Darton for Mrs Davies and Mr Cole; Mr Christopher Wilson for Mr and Mrs Johnson.

LORD JUSTICE CHADWICK said that the appeal raised the question whether or not the appellants were released from their obligation under a covenant to indemnify the respondents against claims arising under a lease by reason of the terms of an individual voluntary arrangement made under Part VIII of the Insolvency Act 1986 by a co-obligee who was liable, jointly with the appellants, under the same covenant.

The judge, following *R A Securities v Mercantile Credit Co Ltd* ([1995] 3 All ER 581), took the view that the effect of an individual voluntary arrangement, or at least, the effect of the present arrangement, was not such as to release solvent co-debtors under the rule of law that the release of one of two or more joint debtors had the effect of releasing the other or others.

The general law as to the release of co-debtors was stated in *Deanplan Ltd v Mahmoud* ([1993] Ch 151) and considered by the Court of Appeal in *Watts v Aldington* (*The Times* December 16, 1993). In that case the liability of the parties as judgment debtors was several as well as joint.

In the present case, as there was joint liability only it was necessary to consider whether and to what extent the approach in *Watts v Aldington* was applicable in a case where the rule was firmly based on the unity of the cause of action.

The approach of Lord Justice Neill was to be adopted, namely: "It would often be more satisfactory to consider whether the relevant document is an absolute release or a release with a reservation rather than to consider whether the document can be fitted into the straitjacket of a covenant or agreement not to sue."

On that basis, it was plain that the words used in the agreement were inconsistent with any intention to effect an immediate or absolute release of creditor debts.

That was sufficient to dispose of the present appeal. But it was not satisfactory to leave the matter there.

In R A Securities v Mercantile Credit the judge had held that a term which, if contained in a consensual document, would have the effect of discharging a surety as a matter of law, would not have that effect if contained in a voluntary arrangement, whether individual or corporate, made under the provisions of the 1986 Act: at least where the creditor had not, in fact, consented to the arrangement.

He distinguished actual consent from what he described as "a statutory binding". He followed that decision in the present case and the general approach was endorsed in *Marsh Estates plc v Gunmark Ltd* ([1996] 2 EGLR 38).

Mr Justice Jacob's view that proposals for compromise between a debtor and his creditors which were imposed by "a *statutory* binding" under the 1986 Act had an effect on third party obligations which was in some way different from the effect which proposals in precisely the same terms would have if contained in a consensual document differed from the view expressed in *Chitty on Contracts* (27th edition (1994) paragraph 42-047) and was criticised in *Law of Guarantees* edited by Andrews and Millett (2nd edition (1995) paragraph 9-14). The point was of some general importance and it was appropriate to consider it.

It was clear that when the 1986 Act was enacted the legislature was well aware of the problem that one consequence of releasing the *debtor* from debts owed to his creditors was that, under the general law, that release would or might have the effect of releasing co-debtors and sureties in respect of the same debts.

In the context of a statutory release following bankruptcy that problem was dealt with in the same way as it had been in legislation for the past hundred years.

In the context of a release contained in a voluntary arrangement, which could be imposed on a dissenting creditor under Part VIII of the 1986 Act, the legislature did not adopt or at least not in express terms, the precedent offered by earlier legislation in relation to compositions or arrangements in bankruptcy proceedings.

There was, in his Lordship's judgment, a strong inference that that was the result of a deliberate decision that, in that respect, voluntary arrangements should be treated as, and have the same consequences as consensual deeds of arrangement; and not to be regarded as a substitute for compositions or arrangements in bankruptcy proceedings.

His Lordship, having reviewed the authorities, did not accept the proposition that, notwithstanding any express term in an arrangement which would or might otherwise have the effect of discharging co-debtors and sureties, if any, of the debtor from further liability, that would not be the effect if the arrangement was made under the provisions in Part VIII of the 1986 Act.

It was essential to keep in mind that it was those provisions which had to be applied. Under Part VIII of the 1986 Act the discharge of the debtor depended entirely on the terms of the arrangement. One had to look at the arrangement, and nothing else, in order to determine whether the debtor was discharged.

Unlike the earlier legislation, section 260(2) of the 1986 Act did not in terms impose the arrangement on a dissenting creditor whether or not he had agreed to its terms; rather he was bound by the arrangement as the result of a statutory hypothesis which required him to be treated as if he had consented to the arrangement.

The consequence was that the legislature must be taken to have intended that both the question whether the debtor was discharged by the arrangement and the question whether co-debtors and sureties were discharged were to be answered by treating the arrangement as consensual; that is, by construing its terms as if they were the terms of a consensual agreement between the debtor and all those creditors who, under the statutory hypothesis, were treated as being consenting parties.

Whether or not to exclude co-debtors and sureties from the operation, under the general law, of the terms of a composition or arrangement between a debtor and his creditor was a matter of policy.

In choosing to enact Part VIII in the way that it did, the legislature must be taken to have preferred that the general law was to have effect.

It was up to the debtor to propose and for the creditors to accept or reject proposals which either did or did not have the effect of releasing co-debtors or sureties.

Lord Justice Kennedy and Lord Justice Ward agreed.

Solicitors: Judge Sykes Fribou, Strand and Edward Harte & Co, Brighton; Aldrich Crowther & Wood, Brighton.

Postponing grant of decree absolute

W v W (Decree absolute)

Before Mrs Justice Bracewell

[Judgment February 20]

Where there was a real risk of prejudice to one party in divorce proceedings, the court had power to refuse to allow an application for the grant of a decree absolute unless and until the other party had complied with any orders for ancillary relief.

Mrs Justice Bracewell so held in the Family Division in a reserved judgment, handed down in chambers but reported with leave on condition that the parties were not identified, when allowing an appeal by the plaintiff wife from the order of District Judge White in the *Principal Divorce Registry* on September 12, 1997 whereby he granted leave to the respondent husband to apply for a decree absolute under section 9(2) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 and rule 2.49(2) of the Family Proceedings Rules (SI 1991 No 1247 (L20)) on the ground that there was a real risk of prejudice to the wife's position.

Shortly before the present hearing, it emerged that the husband he had flown by Concorde to New York where he had purported to obtain a religious divorce in order to remarry there.

Because the wife had refused to accept the get, or divorce declaration, the second marriage could only be achieved by means of a *heter meah rabbonim*, a dispensation signed by 100 rabbis and normally only used where the wife was incapable of agreeing to divorce due to mental illness or was regarded as being unreasonable in refusing the get.

Mr Jeremy Posnansky, QC and Mr Edward Cross for the wife; Mr *Augustus Ullstein*, QC, for the husband.

MRS JUSTICE BRACEWELL said that the foreign national parties, who had married abroad in 1974, had lived in England for most of the marriage. In 1996 they separated and the husband left the country, retaining no home, and very few assets, within the jurisdiction.

The wife began divorce proceedings in the United Kingdom in order to prevent the husband starting them elsewhere. A decree nisi was pronounced in September 1996 and ancillary proceedings were commenced under the pilot scheme at the principal registry in February 1997.

In April 1997 the wife was awarded maintenance pending suit. That had been paid to date but the capital position and the husband's account of his financial position continued to be obscure.

At the hearing before Judge White the husband gave various undertakings, with which he failed to comply. The wife appealed against the order granting leave to the husband to apply for a decree absolute alleging that that would be prejudicial to her position in the ancillary relief proceedings.

The husband, who was pleading poverty and threatening bankruptcy, had not attended the *resumed financial dispute* resolution meeting in January 1998 because he was skiing.

Her Ladyship said that it was well established that the court had full discretion to determine such cases as it thought just on the facts: see *Marsh v Marsh* ([1993] 1 WLR 744). While a common reason for refusing to grant a decree absolute application arose where a petitioner would be financially prejudiced by such a grant, that did not mean that an application could be resisted in order to provide an additional entitlement.

Nor was the mere fact that the husband had no home in the jurisdiction sufficient, as difficulties of enforcement could not of themselves lead to the conclusion that he would frustrate any orders for ancillary relief.

However, consideration of the extent and significance of the devious manner in which the husband had dealt with disclosure and the whole history of the ancillary relief proceedings to date, led to the conclusion that it was only his need for a decree absolute that was keeping the husband's participation in the legal process.

If his application were granted there was a very real risk that he would wash his hands of any further involvement with consequent prejudice to the wife's position. Against that, refusal to grant a decree absolute now would only cause the husband the minor prejudice of having to delay his legal remarriage.

Solicitors: Freedman Sharman & Co, Borehamwood; Clintons.

Practice of giving direction on good character of accused

Barrow v The Queen

The practice in Trinidad and Tobago, and elsewhere in the Caribbean, with regard to the giving by the trial judge of a direction as to the good character of an accused should accord with the practice approved by the House of Lords in *R v Aziz* ([1996] AC 41).

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Nolan, Lord Hope of Craighead and Sir Christopher Staughton) so stated on March 23 in giving reasons for allowing on March 4 an appeal by Terrence Barrow from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal of Trinidad and Tobago of his appeal against conviction of murder.

LORD LLOYD said that a failure to comply with the practice would not necessarily result in an appeal being allowed in every case.

Thus an appellant would only be able to rely on the absence of a direction if the point had been distinctly raised by the defence in the course of the trial.

That was one of the points decided by the Judicial Committee in *Thompson v The Queen*, on February 16, 1998, where Lord Hutton had said:

"However, if it is intended to rely on the good character of the accused, that issue must be raised by calling evidence or putting questions on that issue to witnesses for the prosecution ... where the issue of good character is not raised by the defence in evidence, the judge is under no duty to raise the issue himself: this is a duty to be discharged by the defence and not by the judge."

In the present case the point was raised, so a direction ought to have been given.

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Martin Scorsese is Hollywood's latest big-hitter to put the Dalai Lama on film. **Lesley O'Toole** reports



"There's no storyline," says Martin Scorsese, seen here with Gyurme Tethong, who plays the young Dalai Lama in *Kundun*. "He grows up, he's told there'll be trouble and he gets away"

Into battle for a man of peace

Martin Scorsese has "kind of given up on winning an Oscar," said screenwriter Melissa Matheson, when asked earlier this year if the director's Dalai Lama biography might be in the running for something. In fact, Scorsese's — and Matheson's — film, *Kundun*, was Oscar-nominated only for its stunning cinematography.

Its failure to secure a Best Picture nomination was no surprise. The Dalai Lama's story as told from Brad Pitt's Western perspective in *Seven Years in Tibet* failed to attract an audience and *Kundun*, *while not intended to be* esoteric, featured no actor "name", and attracted an even smaller audience in America.

Scorsese has seen his fair share of Oscar anomalies. *Raging Bull* won Best Picture and Robert De Niro Best Actor, but the director has always left empty-handed. Still, Scorsese does not seem to care. He is also not unduly worried that he discovered Tibet long before Richard Gere, Harrison Ford and a whole host of Hollywood acolytes did. In 1951, when he was about eight, he saw a Cold War film called *Storm Over Tibet*. Directed by a Hungarian who had shot footage of Tibet in the 1930s, the film interspersed the footage with scenes shot on a Los Angeles sound stage.

"They put together this B-movie plot, adding some sort of mystery and an exotic *theme*," Scorsese says. He remembers being "fascinated by the look, the authenticity and the rituals. I didn't know it was Tibet then; it was the first time I ever heard that word. I was always interested in that kind of thing, though."

Years later, Scorsese "heard the Dalai Lama was still alive and saw some documentaries on TV. Then I became aware of Richard Gere and his talking about the situation, but I still didn't really understand what was happening in the country."

In the 1980s he saw some footage shot by Heinrich Harrer, the German mountaineer who befriended the young Dalai Lama, as depicted by Pitt in *Seven Years in Tibet*. "And then the Dalai Lama received the Nobel Prize, *which showed he was* not only alive but still a real force to be reckoned with. The interesting part for me was that here is a man who lives by his religious convictions and is living out a life of pacifism and non-violence. He knocks on doors, explains his situation and makes changes if at all possible."

Scorsese, though, was not the initiator of the project. Matheson sent him her script "out of the blue. *I liked that it* was simple and not bogged down with the Dalai Lama's teachings. I didn't want to preach." Matheson introduced a "very nervous" Scorsese to the Dalai Lama. "I found him very open and warm and he didn't behave in any sort of *regal way*."

Kundun is, of course, diametrically opposed to Scorsese's more recent cinematic fare. Therein, it seems, lay the attraction. "I can't talk about the nature of man because I'm not a philosopher. I just know that what I was taught in church and what I was taught on the street are two different things. Somehow one has to win out.

"That's the same thing the Tibetans are talking about: compassion, love, kindness and tolerance. *Ultimately, this* film is about non-violence and I've seen too much that was the other way."

Scorsese was unhappy with his film after the first cut. "I realised there was some emotion lacking. But George Lucas always says: 'If your first *cut is good, you're in trouble.*' I have to agree. And I've always said that the more you make films, the less you know. That's what it's all about."

Scorsese went back to the drawing board, a mammoth prospect given that "there's no storyline, so we could have gone anywhere. A film like *Cape Fear*, for example, was easier to go back to after the first cut because it has a plot. But in this one, the Dalai Lama grows up, he's told there'll be trouble and he gets away. *That's it.*"

He attributes a huge part of the film's heart to his cast, predominantly Tibetans who had never acted before. Many are related to the Dalai Lama, "although it just happened to turn out that way. I found the moral centre of the picture *through them. Very often, I* would have to alter a shot because they were saying or doing so much."

There is not a single Western actor featured, much to the chagrin of some of Scorsese's regular thespian stable. "Joe Pesci said: 'Marty, I'll come over. Tell me anything I can do.' Bob [De Niro] and Harvey [Keitel] said much the same."

Surprisingly, the film is distributed worldwide by the Walt Disney Company's theatrical arm. With Chinese theme parks *still high on its global* priority list, Disney might have hesitated in endorsing the film, particularly after the Chinese voiced their objections. "Obviously, Michael Eisner, Joe Roth and Mike Ovitz [then the studio's heads] never sat down and said: 'OK, let's make a movie and get into political trouble.' But they made it, so they must have felt the climate was all right."

● Kundun *opens on Friday*

The beat of a different drum

A rare triumph for the percussion section marks a sea-change in the BBC Young Musicians competition

Perhaps it was appropriate that as the BBC Young Musicians competition — founded 20 years ago — nears its coming of age, a little piece of history should have been made in the 1998 Final Concert. On Sunday in Belfast's Waterfront Hall, and on BBC2, a percussionist was named BBC Young Musician for the first time. Adrian Spillett, who had something to celebrate when he turned 20 yesterday.

This is only the third time that the biennial competition has been open to percussionists, and it shows how a new breed of musician is making inroads into more conventional concert life. It is also a good advertisement for the Shropshire Music Service, with which Spillett received his training before moving to the Royal Northern College of Music, at a time when music education for everyone is being further squeezed by government cuts.

Spillett won with a virtuoso performance of the American Joseph Schwantner's *Percussion Concerto*. It plainly stirred the jury (chaired by Barry Douglas), who would not have awarded the prize simply to get a percussionist into the annals; and to judge by the audience's response and the television viewers' poll, it made the biggest impression all round. But from a purely musical point of view, on television it made less impact than some of the other performances.

That is one problem with televised music, since music is a medium that can say everything without words and pictures and is best experienced live. Yet, as Julian Lloyd Webber emphasised in his recent World Economic Forum speech, television is where most people get their culture, and we should be grateful for the little music the BBC does broadcast. Competitions, for all their musical pros and cons, are a good place to start, for they capture the viewers' imaginations.

Just how much viewers needed their imaginations dulled by bland chat is another matter. The family snaps and mention of aunties, uncles, dogs and cats did no one any favours, especially when all the players were able to say so much through their music. And no performers, least of all inexperienced ones, have anything interesting to say moments after walking off the platform.

In a year of very high standards, all but one of the other finalists — all girls — could have taken the trophy. Only Alison Balsom, who played Haydn's Trumpet Concerto, did not fulfil the promise she showed in her section final. Marie Macleod projected real personality in her account of Saint-Saëns's Cello Concerto No. 1. Alison Farr displayed mature pianism while bringing something of herself to Rachmaninov's *Paganini Rhapsody*, and Juliette Bausor played Nielsen's Flute Concerto with the best all-round musicianship.

JOHN ALLISON

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BRAHMS CLARINET QUINTET
Reviewed by Colin Lawson

In 1891 the 57-year-old Brahms was persuaded to abandon his projected retirement from composition by the magnificent playing of the Meiningen clarinettist Richard Mühlfeld. His Clarinet Trio and Quintet were written during that summer, followed three years later by the two Clarinet Sonatas. Although Brahms apparently preferred the blend of clarinet with piano rather than strings, his Clarinet Quintet won immediate popularity and it is still widely regarded as one of his very finest achievements.

The English clarinettist Charles Draper's 1928 recording with the Léner Quartet offers a true glimpse of a bygone era, and its flexibility of tempo recurs in the partnership of Reginald Kell and the Busch Quartet in 1937.

Since the 1950s there has been an avalanche of recordings, variously balancing the music's lyrical and dramatic elements. The 1967 recording by Karl Leister and the Amadeus Quartet boasts string playing of unrivalled intensity, and among modern German versions Sabine Meyer and members of the Vienna Sextet are especially impressive in their response to the music's intellectual and emotional demands.

For commitment and vibrant personality Thea King wins the laurels among the many British performances, while the American David Shifrin delivers an especially well-integrated account. One of the most recent interpretations by the Swiss Thomas Friedli is particularly poetic.

Such is the strength of Brahms's musical discourse that few of the 30 or so versions currently available would actively disappoint, and within such a competitive and accomplished field comparisons are invidious. But the eloquent reading by **James Campbell** and the **Allegri Quartet** on **Cala (CACD1009 £14.49)** boasts a wonderful balance of momentum and poise, the ensemble playing by turns dramatic, seductive and serene.

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They aren't Strads but they are good. **Helen Wallace** previews a festival of UK violin-making

Fit as a fiddle, and from Britain too

The story goes that when Fritz Kreisler came to London in 1911 he tried a violin with such astonishing tone that he swore it must be a Guarneri and decided to buy it on the spot. When it was revealed that the fiddle was made by Daniel Parker, an 18th-century English maker, Kreisler requested that the label be removed, since a violinist of his stature *wouldn't want to be seen* playing an English violin. The dealer, Hill, stoutly refused.

Some years later, Ida Haendel was happily performing on a fine violin which she thought was, again, that mystical object, a Guarneri. When she was told that she was playing a John Lott (1805-71), perhaps the finest of all English makers, she ceased playing it.

A Lott violin would be worth up to £50,000 today, and even that seems cheap when placed next to the £1 million Italian models with which it continues to be confused. *But musi*cians have long been cherishing British instruments and bows. Now their time has come, with the opening today of *The British Violin: Four Hundred Years of British Violin Making*, an exhibition and concerts at the Royal Academy of Music.

"In some ways," says John Dilworth, a maker who has helped to research the instruments for the exhibition, "British instruments have been victims of their own success. The best 18th and 19th-century instruments have been passed off as Italian for so long that their true worth has never been recognised."

Identifying British instruments has long been a problem. While Italian artisans signed their own instruments, British makers tended to be employed by violin shops, and their work was labelled by the dealer's name rather than their own. Only recently has research thrown light on the identity of these makers, and the exhibition will have its share of revelations. "One violin will be opened up so that you can see the shop's label inside the back, 'Charles & *Samuel Thompson*'," explains Dilworth. "But if you look inside the belly you can actually see the hidden label of the true maker, John Barton."

Dilworth emphasises that there is no such thing as a "typical" English violin: different models were popular at different times, from Stainer, to Amati, to Strad. "And then suddenly, in 1832, Paganini came to town with his famous Guarneri and you see a flood of Guarneri copies." The line between skilful copying and forgery was often blurred, usually by unscrupulous dealers, and the famous Voller Brothers' Strad forgery is just one of the stories told in the exhibition.

One area in which the English excelled in was in cello-making. The London Symphony Orchestra's principal cellist, Moray Welsh, says: "A Strad may project, but under the ear you hear something completely different. Playing on an English cello, like a Kennedy, you can hear exactly what sound you are producing, which makes them great instruments for chamber and orchestral playing, and of course the tone is beautiful." Cellos by Forster, Barak Norman, Betts, Lockey Hill and especially Benjamin Banks, with their fabulous burnished look and sound, are rising in price all the time, now fetching around £50,000 in auction.



Best of British: (clockwise from left) a Dodd cello, Daniel Parker viola, J.F. Lott violin, Pamphilou violin

Violin-making went into a long decline from the end of the 19th century. As more dealers needed craftsmen to concentrate on the lucrative business of repair and restoration, making sank down the list of priorities, particularly in the face of cheap foreign imports. Soon there was nowhere an aspiring maker could get an apprenticeship.

Only a handful of craftsmen stand out in the mid-20th century, through skill and single-minded devotion. They include William Luff, his nephew Glen Collins, and Maurice Bouette — who with Wilf Saunders taught the first classes at the Newark School of Violin Making in 1972. From that moment the tide turned for British making. The Newark graduates have gone on to become international prizewinners, and new British instruments are now played by artists from Menuhin to Kennedy. Ironically, the Newark course is now so popular with French, German and American students that it is hard for British students to get places.

But the new wave is gathering force. The recently formed British Violin Making Association balloted its members to choose the modern instruments for this show, and the range is impressive: from Dietrich Kesslers's exquisite viols to David Rubio's technologically informed models to Roger Hargrave's incredible antique copies. This is an important moment for a profession struggling to be recognised in a country which does not esteem artist-craftsmen. And for those who would rather hear than see, some of the instruments will be played in five concerts of English music at the RAM.

● The British Violin *at the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 (0171-873 7300) until April 11*

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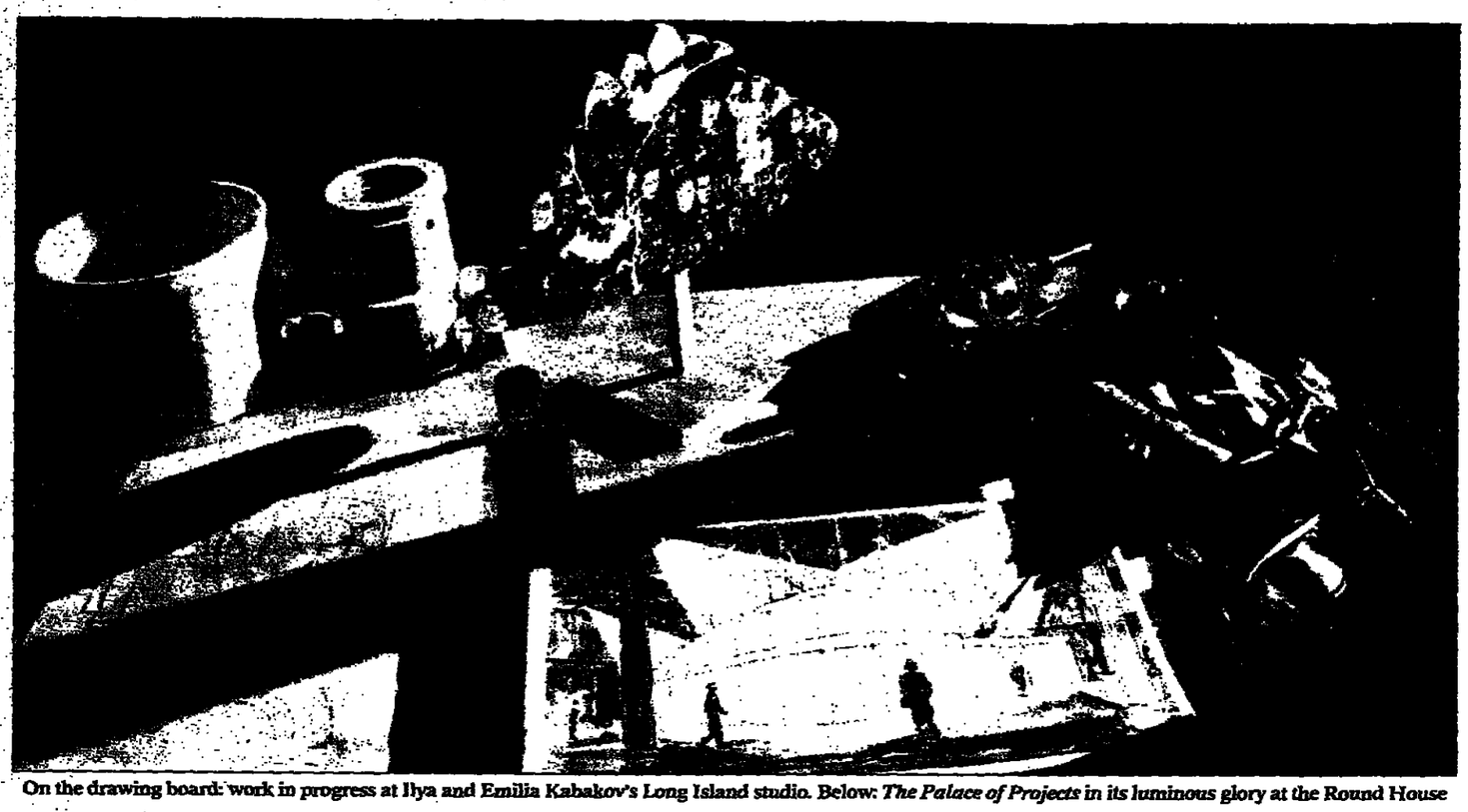
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Richard Cork enters the weird world of the Kabakovs, keepers of the avant-garde flame under Soviet oppression

The palace of fantasy unchained



On the drawing board: work in progress at Ilya and Emilia Kabakov's Long Island studio. Below: *The Palace of Projects* in its luminous glory at the Round House

Little more than a decade has passed since Ilya Kabakov, with his wife and collaborator Emilia, finally left Moscow. But memories of the oppressed life still fester in his mind like a persistent nightmare. As a member of the underground group called Sretensky Boulevard, he worked in secret for more than 30 years. In order to protect himself from jail, he became a children's book illustrator. That guaranteed Kabakov the obscurity he needed, enabling him to endure Soviet reality by cultivating a world of dreams.

Now based in New York and enjoying an international reputation, he and Emilia at last command the resources to work on a colossal scale. Even when Artangel confronted them with the challenge of the Round House, that awesome North London monument to Victorian industrial prowess, they remained undaunted.

The entire central area of this great circular railway building has been enlivened by a spiralling structure called *The Palace of Projects*. Made from wood and white plastic, its taut and pristine walls glow against the griminess of the surrounding iron pillars. It curves up towards the lofty roof with aspirational zeal. Only at the top is a hesitant note sounded, where wooden prongs jut from the structure as if unfinished or inexplicably broken.

Once you enter, this uncertainty makes sense. For the Kabakovs have filled their luminous interior with a sequence of chambers where Utopian, and largely unrealisable, proposals are presented. Each is supposed to have been devised by a Russian fantasist: a chauffeur from Kishinev, for example, or a music teacher from Serpukhov.

The obscurity of their addresses echoes Kabakov's own origins, as a Jewish boy growing up at Dnepropetrovsk in Ukraine. And the way they are displayed here likewise bears the hallmark of his other work, quirkily oscillating between extremes of absurdity and pathos, earnestness and farce.

A pair of white wings joined by leather straps hangs on one side, near a document headed *How Can One Change Oneself?* The accompanying text, which we are invited to read by sitting at a desk, explains how to make the wings and attach them to your back. Then, over a period of weeks, you wear them for a few minutes each day.

It is important, stresses the text, to conduct this bizarre experiment alone in your room, thereby "avoiding undesirable reactions on the part of other people in the family". But the effect of the ritual is left unclear, and this haziness applies to the outcome of every drawing, model, diagram and installation within the labyrinthine *Palace*.

Take the section called *Paradise Under The Ceiling*, where a ladder invites us to climb up and view the contents of a high, narrow ledge. The ladder is slender and unstable, promoting unease as you ascend. And the Noah's Ark array of toy animals inhabiting the ledge, along with the occasional tree or house, can scarcely be expected to induce a feeling of instantaneous bliss.

Many proposals rely on a naive belief in the romantic notion of recapturing the outlook of a child. A wooden box, heaped with an assortment of discarded dolls, teapots, lampshades and clothes, is supposed to bring about a fruitful encounter with the past. It might equally well be argued that, if all this jumble were thrown away, we could liberate ourselves from burdensome memories.

Such scepticism is frowned on in the *Palace*, where one proposal suggests that people addicted to complaining about their lives should dress in rags, smear their faces with soot or ink and sit on a street corner with "a humble request for help" written on cardboard. The text promises that "no matter how painful the realisation of this project is ... you will see your life more positively". The optimism seems so risible that the Kabakovs might be suspected of mocking the fantasies they present. But the attitude informing the *Palace of Projects* is far from simple.

It must, on one level, be fuelled by a lifelong mistrust of the Utopian hunger that led to the barbarity of the Soviet super-state. One proposal in particular, saddled with the ominous title *Irradiation with Positivity and Optimism*, smacks of the bad old days when Soviet artists were expected to serve up Socialist Realism. Bland paintings celebrating sunshine, health and glorious achievements should, according to this text, be displayed on wooden stands in every public institution where "the quick and effective establishment of positive energy is necessary". The old regime was ready to persecute anyone who refused to paint such pictures, and Kabakov remembers that tyranny well.



> White wings hang near a document headed *How Can One Change Oneself?* A text explains how to attach them to your back

Other proposals are still more macabre, such as the idea of painting a large piece of plywood with rows of faces depicting *The World As One Big Family*. The assembled faces in Kabakov's illustration look manic rather than fulfilled. Coercion, not liberation, prevails here.

Elsewhere, though, the *Palace* is alive with humour. The proposal for *Open-Air Toilets* is especially diverting. The purgative benefits of a bowel movement would, it seems, be enhanced by building small wooden lavatories "on tall mountains or on steep cliffs where the process of meditation is not interrupted by anything". Kabakov's drawings of the sheds and their occupants, stranded on the edge of precipices, are hilarious.

But the crankiness of such notions gives way to a poetic, dream-like intensity in other, even more far-fetched blueprints. What should we make of *A Room Taking Off In Flight*, where the text gravely suggests that "depressing everyday existence" can be overcome by sawing out some of the boards in your living-room floor? Gazing down into the emptiness below, the lucky occupant will realise that the room has become miraculously reminiscent of "the inside of a balloon or a rocket rushing upward". Kabakov appears to give the lie to such a ludicrous fantasy in his accompanying drawing, where a disconsolate figure stares into the jagged, cheerless hole beneath his feet.

Whether intended or not, the sadness in this picture ends up saying a lot about Kabakov's former existence. Marooned in a state viciously opposed to the avant-garde, he must have regarded his attic studio in Moscow both a haven and a prison cell. That is surely why so many projects in the *Palace* are suffused with a sharp sense of longing. However preposterous they might be, these Utopian schemes are never mocked. Kabakov seems to understand, and maybe even sympathise with, the fundamental impulse behind them.

They are, on the whole, endearing manifestations of the universal human desire for change, escape and transformation. The more unlikely they appear in practical terms, the more Kabakov warms to them. As a victim of the Soviet Union's perverted vision for mankind, he fears their political implementation. But if they are certain to remain fictions, he favours them — as a means, perhaps, of keeping the imaginative spirit going in times of brutal censorship.

The most disarming proposal on view here is also the most implausible: *Encounter with an Angel*. Purportedly written by a secretary in Stalinobad, it admits that the very thought of a divine meeting may seem insane. But testimonies by "eyewitnesses" suggest otherwise. Such encounters usually occur in mountainous regions, and always at times of personal crisis. In a watercolour and a touchingly childlike maquette, Kabakov shows how to facilitate the summoning of winged assistance. A light alloy ladder, extending 1,200 metres into the clouds, should be constructed in remote countryside. Secured against storm-buffeting with wires, this dizzying structure is then ascended and the combined assault of wind, extreme loneliness and terrifying danger creates the ideal conditions for holy intervention.

The angel duly arrives, shooting towards the ladder. In grateful response, the man stretches his arm up. Their hands do not touch, and the outcome is left ambiguous. After all, the man might be blown off his perch and die. For the moment, though, contact has been established between Earth and Heaven. Hope is generated, and it provides the essential key to survival.

● The Palace of Projects *at the Round House, Chalk Farm Road NW1 (0171-336 6803) until May 10*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

DESPITE all the documentation offered by the Bonnard show at the Tate, **Marthe Bonnard** remains a deeply mysterious figure. Obviously Bonnard was obsessed with her, painting her again and again, most frequently in the bathroom. But she never gets any older, and in her later years it seems she was constantly bathing for largely neurotic reasons. So what manner of woman was she?

A fascinating new show at Stern Art Dealers discloses that Marthe had her own artistic ambitions, and in the Twenties and early Thirties at least was quite productive. In 1924 she had a sell-out show to herself at the Galerie Druet in Paris. Her medium was pastel, and the most immediately striking thing is that she absolutely makes her own way. The beginnings are rather primitive, though charmingly so. Very rapidly she develops, favouring still lifes and landscapes, but with a few figure compositions thrown in. Her colour sense is vivid, dealing in pure, vibrant colours and quite distinct from Bonnard's rather dusty overall effects.

Stern Art Dealers, 46 Ledbury Road, W11 (0171-229 6187). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, until May 2

■ **Justin Mortimer** is the youngest artist ever commissioned to paint the Queen (he was 26 at the time). The result is by no means what one might expect of a royal portrait commissioned by a body as august as the Royal Society of Arts. It belongs, rather, to the world of Mortimer's new show at the Blue Gallery, curiously titled *Shopping à Londres*. There we encounter largish canvases with fragments of bodies scattered on them, dressed as in fashion shoots, except that the models' arms may merge into flippers, or their feet go wandering off all by themselves. Odd company, one might think, for the Queen, but the approach works surprisingly well: the royal head hovers somewhat above the neckline of the green dress she wears, and the check pattern of the dress itself is lifted off to float free in superimposed patches. And yet no one seems to be complaining that the picture, now at the Royal Society, lacks weight and dignity.

Blue Gallery, 93 Walton Street, SW3 (0171-589 4590). Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm, until April 18

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

A full set of flawless China

Isabel Carlisle on a ground-breaking New York show of relics

Every decade or so, perhaps less, an exhibition is conceived and gestates under a confluence of such auspicious stars that the result is as near perfection as could be imagined. Such is the case with the New York Guggenheim Museum's newly opened *China 5,000 Years*, which transfers to the Guggenheim Bilbao in July.

Clearly the political will was there on both sides but, more importantly, the loans are magnificent, the scholarship is lucid, and the installation (by Arata Isozaki and Adegboyega Adefope) along Frank Lloyd Wright's long spiral ramp is elegant and spacious. For once the hyperbole of the catalogue is irrefutable: this show does set a new standard for overseas exhibitions of Chinese relics.

In New York the exhibition is split into two parts, with the modern section at the Guggenheim's downtown SoHo space. It is the first time that an exhibition has linked the whole of Chinese culture into an historical continuum that finishes with the present day. The response of 20th-century Chinese artists, both to their overwhelming artistic legacy and to recent increased contact with the West, has resulted in a huge diversification of styles which have strong parallels in Western art.

For the main Fifth Avenue building, the curator Sherman Lee selected more than 200 objects from 39 cultural institutions throughout China. Lee's gift for slicing through the complexities of Chinese history has led him to organise the show by medium: jade, bronze, ceramics and so on, concentrating on technique and innovation.

The point at which craft slips into art is elusive, but the point at which from having a specific use (whether practical or spiritual) objects become mainly ornamental is visible in each of the various sections. Lee believes that the periods of greatest innovation in the arts have been in early primitive phases.

We may not know what the Neolithic jade ornament in the shape of a pig dragon was used for, although the tight curling of its form around a central hole suggests it may have been threaded onto a cord, but its simple shape and highly defined markings for eyes and ears and mouth have a primitive potency.

In the Han Dynasty, 3,000 years later, animals are animated rather than static. A jade chimera is a swirl of rippling surface decoration, while a bronze buckle ornament with dancers holding cymbals shows a couple of cavorting cowboys, mouths open and legs astride. They are remote descendants of the cowherds who protected the magnificent bronze bulls sculpted into the low offering stand of the Eastern Zhou era (475-221BC), which are being attacked by a tiger.



Tang dragon (618-907)

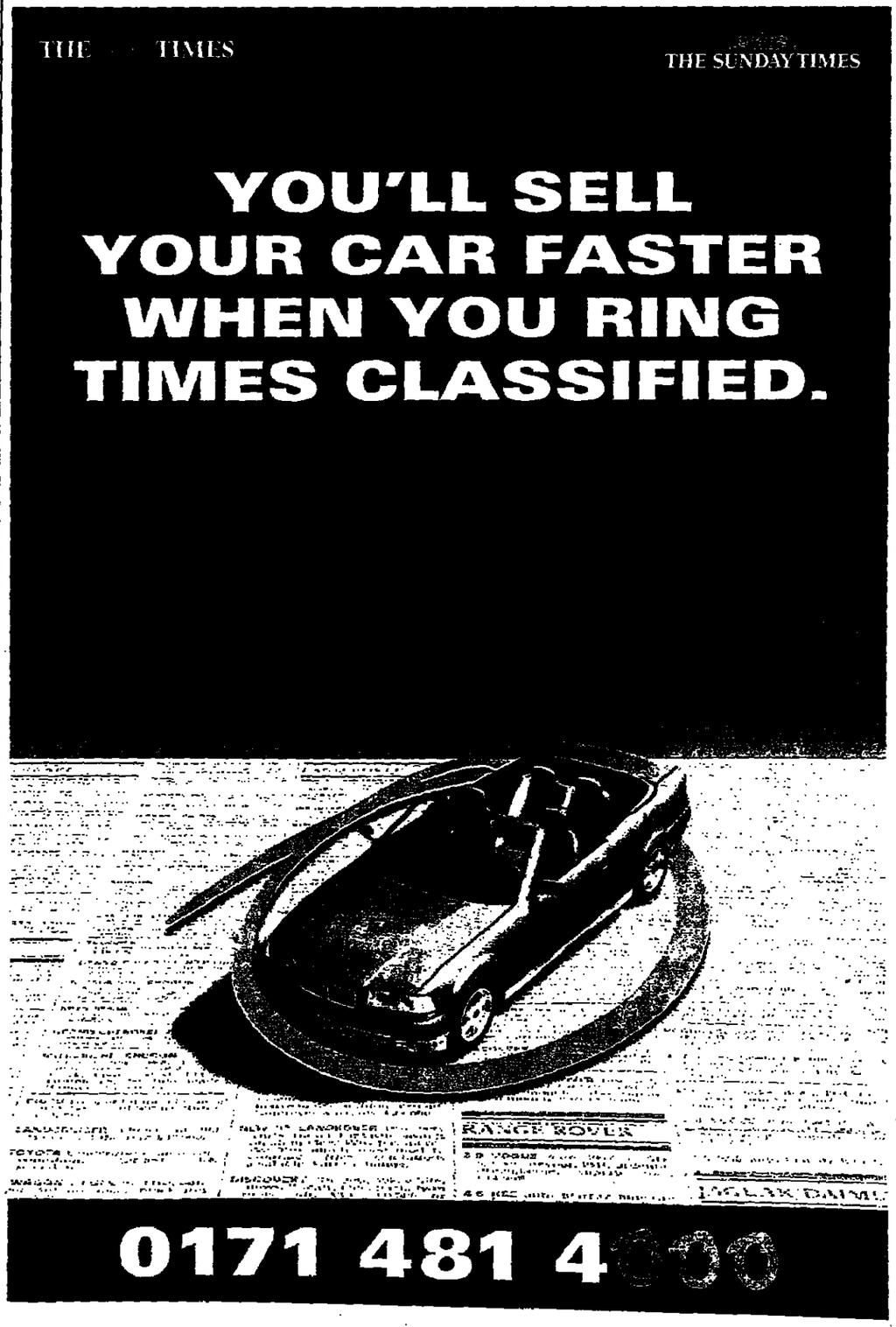
By the time we reach the Tang Dynasty 1,000 years later and the finds from beneath the Famen Temple Pagoda in Shaanxi Province, the censers and jars are made of silver with gilding highlighting the intricate decoration, but the art of metal-working has lost much of its earlier visceral impact.

Some of the earlier objects will be familiar to visitors to the *Mysteries of Ancient China* at the British Museum in 1996. However, many have not left China before, and the emphasis on individual objects and on their aesthetic worth rather than archaeological significance causes them to be seen in a very different light. The well-known standing ceramic soldiers and horses from the tomb of the first Emperor, the Qin Shihuangdi tomb of the 3rd century BC, never fail to transmit a lingering sense of the terror with which they were intended to paralyse tomb robbers. Despite being assembled from terracotta parts off a production line, these utilitarian statues retain the authority of purpose common to all great art.

Technical brilliance, in being the first culture to devise a way of working jade, to cast bronze from ceramic piece moulds, to make porcelain, coat vessels in lacquer, cultivate and weave silk, make paper and print on it, made Chinese products highly sought-after abroad. The citizens of the Roman Empire were so in love with Chinese silks that the drain on the gold in circulation eventually forced their currency into devaluation.

When it came to conveying spirituality in the stone heads of Buddhist deities, or exploring space and the sensations of the natural world in brush-painted scrolls, Chinese artists excelled with the restraint bordering on Minimalism that marks out the best in Chinese art, as can be seen again and again in this magnificent show.

● China 5,000 Years *is at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, 1071 Fifth Avenue (at 89th St), until June 3 and at the Guggenheim Museum SoHo, 575 Broadway (at Prince Street), until May 24, sponsored by Lufthansa, Nokia, Ford and Coca-Cola (for details phone 00 1212 423 3500)*



LONDON

CLOSER The National Theatre production of Patrick Marber's hit play about dodgy personal relations. With Frances Barber and Lee Walker
Lyric, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5054) Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

DANCE OF DEATH Strindberg's grimly funny two-play analysis of a marriage founded on the lust for dominance. Carlo Gébler roasts the play in Donegal. Nicholas Kent directs. The plays can be seen separately
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000) Opens tonight, 6pm and 8.45pm. Then Tue-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 4.30pm and 8pm, Sun, 4pm and 7.30pm. Until April 26 Ⓢ

MADE IN THE USA: Enrique Diemecke conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in a programme embracing several generations of American composers. Works by Bernstein and Barber are followed by the first UK performance of Michael Daugherty's *Metropolis Symphony*
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: The City of London Sinfonia under Richard Hickox concludes its series of musical works inspired by the Bard's magic love story with a concert performance of Britten's eponymous opera. With the Trinity School Boys' Choir and a dependable cast featuring James Bowman, Lilian Watson, Mark Padmore and Catrin Wyn Davies
Barbican Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight, 7pm. Ⓢ

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM Opening night for the spring tour of the opera formerly known as *The Cunning Little Vixen*, now trading under the name **The Adventures of Vixen Sharp-Ears** in this new Graham Vick production for the City of Birmingham Touring Opera. Sung in Norman Tucker's English translation, Janáček's vivid folk tale has a new orchestration by Jonathan Dove. Simon Halsey conducts
Mayfair Suite, Bull Ring Centre (0121-605 7000). Tonight, Thur, Sat, 7.30pm.

EXETER: John Duman directs the Northcott Theatre Company in the Poet Laureate Ted Hughes's powerful and disturbing adaptation of Seneca's **Oedipus**. With a cast of five who also form the chorus and contribute percussive accompaniment
Northcott Theatre, Stocker Road (0392 493493). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 8pm. Until April 11.

MANCHESTER The eminent Russian conductor Gennadi Rozhdestvensky gives a taster of his wide repertoire in tonight's concert with the **Northern Sinfonia**. On the programme are Scarlatti's Concerto No 1, arr Avison followed by Spohr's *Macbeth* Overture, John Casken's *Cello Concerto* and Richard Strauss's suite, *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. The cello soloist is Emma-Jane Murphy.
Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000). Tonight, 7.30pm Ⓢ

LEEDS: Opening night for the "junk opera" **Shockheaded Peter**, another unique collaboration by the creative duo Julian Crouch and Phelim McDermott. Based on Dr Heinrich Hoffman's admonitory 1844 collection of children's tales, *Struwwelpeter*, the staging brings to life the book's many grotesque and wayward youngsters.
Courtyard, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill (0113-213 7700). Tonight, 8.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8.30pm; mats Weds (tomorrow, April 8), 2pm, and Sats (April 4 and 18), 5.30pm. No perfs April 10 and 13. Until April 18 Ⓢ



Shockheaded Peter **opens in Leeds**

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Shaker: The Art of Craftmanship (0171-638 8891) . . **Camden Arts Centre:** Marie Jacé Burki/Carsten Höller (0171-4352643) . . **Hayward:** Francis Bacon (0171-928 3144) . . **National:** Anthony Caro (0171-747 2885) . . **National Portrait:** Henry Carter-Bresson (0171-306 0055) **Royal Academy:** Holy Russia: Icons and the rise of Moscow (0171-300 8000) **Serpentine:** Piero Manzoni (0171-402 6075) **Tate:** Contemporary Art: The Janet Wolfson de Botton Gift (0171-887 8000) . . **V & A:** Costume and Textiles of Palestine (0171-938 8349/8441)

Teenage life good in spots

The Royalty, Gate, W11

Plays translated from the Croatian seldom land in British theatres, and though of course I welcome the opportunity to be shown work from any unfamiliar point of view, Ivan Vidic's peculiar slant on school life proves pretty unfathomable.

Rufus Norris's direction makes decent use of a traverse stage (design: Katrina Lindsay) where the main feature is a rotating drum that usually represents a playground roundabout, but also serves as a dais where the pupils are rehearsing a funeral hymn, and as a couch where the music teacher's wife, Meli, offers likely boys vodka and sympathy.

The teacher regularly takes his class on trips to the local zoo, and since the edges of the stage are formed from lines of low cages and the opening scene is a long speech about the messy habits of the monkey, we can surmise that what follows will probably reveal the messy habits of humanity.

What is also revealed is Vidic's seriously puzzling approach to dramatic construction. His scaffolding looks as if it might be sturdy enough: a boy has died of measles; another is dating Simone Lahbib's kittenishly passionate Meli; a third boy, Josip, is having a difficult time with his girl and his parents; and an old crone squats at the side of the stage, ringing a loud bell to mark the changes of scene and occasionally muttering "Good!" as if to tell us that everything is turning out according to destiny's master plan.

So far so good, if a touch portentous. But the behaviour of Josip's parents makes one suspect that deeper waters are being plumbed. The father is a plain butcher but the mother must come from loftier social circles, because Suzie Bovell gives her a crisply superior accent and an upper-class hauteur.

The author makes her pass the entire play typing chain letters, and either he or Norris's direction decides to have her do this on a spinning chair that whirls around the roundabout and manages to hurtle off stage without crashing into the walls.

What are this odd couple doing in the play? And what significance does the author attach to his title? The programme hints that the measles is a metaphor for puberty, but why does only one of the adolescents die of it, and what can it mean to die of adolescence?

A taciturn Paul Vaughan Evans, flirtatious Kellie Bright and silently wide-eyed Katarina Olsson make good impressions as variously troubled youngsters, and it says something for the general quality of the acting, Norris's staging and Simon King's sound design (like a drowned piano) that incomprehension never quite drives out interest. But it is sometimes a close-run thing.

JEREMY KINGSTON



MARILYN KINGWILL

Troubled youth: Katarina Olsson and Mark Jenkinson fight off a bout of *The Measles*

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **ANTIGONE** Forbidden Theatre Co perform Gwynne Edwards's new translation of the Sophocles tragedy as part of the Greece in Britain Festival.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (0181-237 1111) Tue-Sat, 7.45pm Ⓢ

■ **ART** Roger Allam, Mick Ford and Jack Dee in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm

☐ **CAUSE CELEBRE** Ratigan's last play, a battle of moral attitudes between Alma Rattenbury and a woman in the jury trying her for the murder of her elderly husband. Neil Bartlett directs this angry assessment of 1930s hypocrisy
Lyric, King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm Ⓢ

☐ **DEEP SPACE** Alex Johnston acts in his own play with Patrick Leech: two ex-students soothing with sexual jealousy in a Dublin flat. Jimmy Fay directs for Bedrock Theatre
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND** Now in its fifth London theatre, Peter Hall's excellent production, brimful of deceptions. Starring Christopher Cazenove, Kate O'Mara and Simon Ward.
Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

☐ **KAT AND THE KINGS** Ebullient new 1950s rock'n'roll musical about a South African group that never quite existed.
Vaudeville Theatre, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) Mon-Thur, 8pm, Fri and Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm.

☐ **A LETTER OF RESIGNATION** Edward Fox and Clare Higgins play Harold Macmillan and Lady Dorothy in Hugh Whitemore's play about the effects of the Profumo scandal. Christopher Morahan directs
Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

☐ **THE MISANTHROPE** Elaine Paige plays Célimène, with Michael Pennington as Alceste in a cast that includes Anna Carteret, Peter Bowles and David Yelland. Peter Hall directs a new translation of Molière by Ranjit Bolt
Piccadilly Theatre, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Tonight, Thur and Fri, 7.45pm, mat Thur, 2.30pm. In rep.

☐ **SAUCY JACK AND THE SPACE VIXENS** *Vixens: David Schofield plays the* saucy one in sci-fi musical described as super-cool and deliciously decadent.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041) Mon-Thur, 8pm, Fri, 5.30pm and 8.30pm; Sat, 4pm and 8.30pm.

☐ **SEPARATE TABLES/ HARLEQUINADE** Terence Rattigan's 1954 double bill, restoring hitherto censored gay references to the first play. Colin Ellwood's big top cast includes Barbara Jefford, Sheila Reid, Lucy Whybrow, Mark Edan
King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm Ⓢ

☐ **THE SURGEON OF HONOUR** Calderon's dark drama of fear, cruelty and the obsession with honour, directed by Judith Roberts for Other Ranks Theatre Co
Southwark Playhouse, 62 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 (0171-620 3494). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until April 4.

■ **THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE** Alan Ayckbourn directs Jane Asher in his new comedy about a surprising love and its unsurprising consequences on lovers. Unforgettably ingenious set
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thur and Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ◪ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) ☐ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) . . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ☐ **Smokey Joe's Cafe:** Prince of Wales (0171-839 5987) ☐ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) ☐ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Autour: Director, André Téchiné. **Metro** (0171-437 0757)

CURRENT

UN AIR DE FAMILLE (15): Agreeable French comedy-drama about a squabbling family gathered for a birthday. Cedric Klapisch directs Jean-Pierre Bacri, Agnes Jaoui and Jean-Pierre Darroussin
Curzon Minema (0171-369 1723) **Metro** (0171-437 0757)

◆ **GATTACA** (15): Cool and chic sci-fi movie about genetic engineering, with Ethan Hawke, Uma Thurman and Jude Law. Director, Andrew Niccol.
UCI Whiteleys Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0181-970 6015) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **GOOD WILL HUNTING** (15): Superficial feel-good movie about the taming of a natural genius, with Matt Damon and Robin Williams.
Greenwich (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker St**(0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **IN & OUT** (12): Can Kevin Kline's English teacher possibly be gay? Appealing mainstream comedy, directed by Frank Oz
Virgin Trocadero Ⓢ (0181-970 6015)

JACKIE BROWN (15): Pam Grier's money smuggler tries wriggling out of trouble. Entertaining adaptation of Elmore Leonard's comic thriller from Quentin Tarantino, with an excellent cast (Robert Forster, Samuel L. Jackson, Robert De Niro, Michael Keaton, Bridget Fonda)
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3333) **Empire** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0181-970 6015)

◆ **THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK** (12): Deception and thrills at the court of Louis XIV. Bullish new version of the Dumas novel, with an attractive cast. Director, Randall Wallace
Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

Pump up the volume

POP

Therapy?
Sir Henry's, Cork

THEY may be one of the loudest rock bands around but Therapy? have been as quiet as a catatonic mouse these past few years. It seems quite fitting, then, that they should choose to call their comeback single *Church of Noise*.

Which is not to suggest that Andy Cairns's gang spent the time between albums asleep at the wheel. On the contrary, the period between their last record, 1995's *Infernal Love*, and their new album *Semi-Detached* (in the shops this week) could be more accurately described as an extended pitstop. The original drummer, Fyfe Ewing, has been replaced by Graham Hopkins (formerly of My Little Funhouse) and the addition of Martin McCarrick on guitar and cello means that Therapy? are now a quartet for the first time.

Although they could have comfortably filled venues twice the size of Sir Henry's, Cairns wanted his band to re-enter the race the way they started it and so this short Irish tour — sandwiched in between a two-legged UK slog and a European jaunt — allowed the band the chance to be viewed up close and personal.

A cavernous, crypt-like venue in the centre of Cork city, Sir Henry's interior is painted an uncompromising 40 shades of black. But what better band to see in such a dungeon than a fire-breathing rock'n'roll dragon like Therapy? Opening with the (in)famous *Potato Junkie* (number of daytime Radio 1 plays: zero), the suitably demented-looking Cairns bellowed his way through a greatest hits set that musically had a scorched earth policy on a par with anything in Montserrat.

The first signs that all was not going to be quiet on the Southern front came from the support band called (sic) (er, *sic*). The bane of every sub-editor's life, this Dublin-based trio are generating quite a stir among industry types with their full frontal melodic thrash rock. Tight and disciplined, (sic) are led by the commanding, tattoo-smothered singer/guitarist, Ricky Warwick.

Therapy? however were not to be upstaged. The new songs have all the paranoia, anger and self-loathing that we have come to expect. *Church of Noise* is essentially psychotic surfer music built from the same material as the Pixies' *Planet of Sound*. New member McCarrick (who has previously played in bands as diverse as Siouxsie and the Banshees and This Mortal Coil) swapped his guitar for a bow and cello for *Stories* and *Disgracelands*, but unfortunately the instrument was all but buried in the mix under the thunderous drums and Cairns's ear-baiting six-string.

But the biggest surprise of the evening was their punk rock version of DJ Shadow's *High Noon*, which, like the gig as a whole, was fast and furious and a hell of a lot of fun.

NICK KELLY

Kinky sort of legacy

Ray Davies
Theatre Royal

IT REVEALS much about a complicated icon that Ray Davies waited until he was past 50 before summoning the emotional wherewithal to mount a one-man show. But after more than 30 years as the auteur of a British pop music institution, and with the Kinks apparently in mothballs, he has opted for a belated name-above-the-titles status.

This production of song and reminiscence was prompted by his 1995 autobiography *X-Ray*, and has since been variously styled *To The Bone*, then *20th Century Man* and now *Storyteller*. As a storyteller, of course, Davies has been known to us since British pop was in its infancy, but the central premise of this show casts *Davies in a somewhat different light*. Now he narrates his story and navigates a willing audience into and out of his great Kinks compositions, those fabled, 45rpm artefacts of Sixties culture.

Davies now has a freshly buffed front and back to his career in the form of this new UK tour, an accompanying EMI release documenting the show, and Castle's recent repackaging of the first five Kinks albums. For a writer who practically deserved a Kitemark on the Britpop movement of the mid-1990s, it is payback time. And there are few more outstanding debts to be paid to any pioneer.

Accompanied unobtrusively by the guitarist Pete Mathison, Davies opened with two straight bull's eyes, in the form of *Lola* and *Dead End Street*. But then it was into biography land, as subsequent selections received the background colour of readings from *X-Ray*. Though Davies was almost word-perfect on those passages, one occasionally sensed him wanting to break the chains of the text. You also wondered how his erstwhile bandmates felt at being reduced to such parenthetical roles. The celebrated ambivalence of Davies's relationship with his younger brother Dave was certainly paraded in full view.

But his descriptions of the days when the brothers dipped their toes into the rock 'n' roll waters in a front room in Muswell Hill were touching, and Davies showed a keen eye for placing his salad days in their sociological context without ever sounding as if he was preening his feathers. The format has clearly renewed both his and his audience's enthusiasm for his set-piece songs, and *Tired Of Waiting For You* and *Autumn Almanac* were among the most refreshed.

The show barely moves beyond the 1960s, which probably points to the likelihood of a second book and show to chart the Kinks' curious subsequent transition into American rock heroes. The second half of this two-hour enterprise may have occasionally missed its impetus, but there was no doubting the collective fascination with this newly illustrated man.

PAUL SEXTON

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LAW

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David Lock offers suggestions for the Government task force on housebuying

Better ways to buy your house



James Stewart's way with mortgages in *It's a Wonderful Life* won him wide affection, not something today's bank managers often experience

Buying a house is the biggest purchase most of us ever make, yet consumers would get more protection buying a used car from Arthur Daley. Houses come with no guarantee that they won't collapse or subside the day after contracts have been signed. But even getting to that stage is a nightmare. The twin evils of delay and uncertainty make moving house one of the most common causes of stress.

The Government has set up a task force into the housebuying process under Hilary Armstrong, the Housing Minister, but we might not need a new Act of Parliament to modernise the system. All we need is for the professionals who run the system to work together more closely and agree to a few relatively minor administrative changes.

Most of us borrow to buy a house, but we tend to put in offers on houses before finding out how much we can borrow. It would be simpler if we found out how much we could borrow before we started looking.

The main security for most lenders is not the property we are buying, but the money we earn. We contact the bank or building society after we have made an offer and then potential lenders launch into an interminable paperchase for financial information. They demand references and check on employment prospects before they will tell us how much they will lend and at what rate. And because of a trend to more self-employment and short-term contracts, the problem is getting worse.

Here are a few suggestions:

● Banks and other lenders should encourage early applications — possibly by not charging a fee. They could provide "mortgage availability certificates" to tell people exactly how much they could borrow. Some banks already do this, but hardly anyone uses them because they are not required.

● Sellers could speed everything up by organising searches and surveys before they put up a For Sale board. Organising local searches is simple, using standard questions approved by the Law Society. Vendors can buy the form and send for the information, reducing their solicitor's conveyancing bill.

● We could save time with the survey, and build more safeguards into the system. At present, you get no guarantees when you buy a house. There is nothing you can do against the vendor, even if he or she knows about a problem, unless they are deliberately deceiving you.

The existing system allows the unscrupulous to keep quiet and tacitly mislead the uninformed. Buyers often pay out to surveyors to reveal problems the seller already knows about. It would make more sense for vendors to employ a properly qualified, independent and insured surveyor before the house is put on the market, and provide the survey to a buyer.

> Solicitors and others would have new ways of working

● The sale contract should offer a standard set of limited warranties such as "save as disclosed, the property is structurally sound". The warranties would exclude defects disclosed by survey. Buyers and lenders could then rely on the twin supports of the survey and the warranties.

● The vendor should insure against claims being made under the sale contract warranties, thereby giving a fund against which the buyer can claim if the warranties are breached.

Taking these simple steps would speed up the housebuying process and give everyone confidence that the deal was likely to go ahead. The vendor would give the purchaser the survey and searches and the buyer would hand over details of their mortgage offer. There would be less for solicitors to do and the legal bills might fall.

Two further administrative changes would be needed. Lenders would have to abandon their lists of "approved surveyors". Most panels are anti-competitive and lead to different surveyors with the same qualifications doing the same work — at vast cost to the public.

A qualified and insured surveyor should provide adequate protection for all deals apart from those involving particularly unusual or expensive homes. Purchasers would then be able to take action against the surveyor for not revealing any defects or the vendor for breach of the warranty, if the house was subsequently discovered to have problems. And both the surveyor and the vendor would, of course, be properly insured.

The surveyor's insurers would have to accept that the surveyor's liability was not limited to the vendor who commissioned the survey, but also extended to buyers.

Vendors might, of course, refuse to give the necessary warranties. However, banks and building societies would gain the protection of the warranties and might be reluctant to offer loans on homes that did not have them. Market forces would soon ensure that everyone saw the benefits.

The changes would force banks, building societies, surveyors and solicitors to embrace a new way of working. The professions are not renowned for welcoming change, but the Government might come up with proposals that they like even less.

● *The author, Labour MP for Wyre Forest, is a member of the Chancery Bar Association.*

Whistleblowers get to call the tune

English law once expected workers to put up with virtually anything. In the master and servant relationship, as employment law characterised it until recently, servants could not legally question any aspect of what they were asked to do. In a case in 1859 Lord Bramwell proclaimed as a fair approach to working practices: "The master says here is the work, do it or let it alone."

The new Public Interest Disclosure Bill, introduced by Richard Shepherd, the Conservative MP for Aldridge-Brownhills, has just passed its second reading in the House of Commons. It marks a far step from the "anything goes" philosophy of 19th-century industrial law. The Bill protects workers from being dismissed or penalised by their employers for disclosing information relating to crimes, breaches of a legal obligation, miscarriages of justice, dangers to health and safety or the environment and to the concealing of evidence relating to any of these. The Bill defines "workers" to include homeworkers, NHS doctors, dentists, and trainees on vocational or work experience schemes. It also covers people who have been with an employer for less than two years.



GARY SLAPPER

Public Concern at Work, a charity that "promotes compliance with the law and good practice in organisations", has dealt with 1,200 serious allegations since its launch in October 1993. Three lawyers at its London office give confidential advice to inquirers who are unhappy at what they are seeing or being asked to do at work but are loath to report it for fear of being sacked or made to suffer. The range of malpractice includes care assistants who see elderly people bullied, accountants asked to make fraudulent returns, the creation of public dangers such as unsafe scaffolding, and environmental risks such as dangerous chemicals released into rivers.

In 1994 Bonnie Tall, personal assistant to the Vice-Chancellor at Portsmouth University, had to resign after blowing the whistle on her boss for sustained fiddling of expenses. She had tried several times to raise the matter through lines of managerial authority without success. At one point a pro-vice-chancellor told Ms Tall to keep her mouth shut or she would be disciplined. An industrial tribunal eventually found that she had been constructively dismissed but did not order reinstatement; she was awarded £10,000. Her position under the new legislation would be resolved much more quickly (because the law is clear) and it would probably result in a higher level of compensation, or reinstatement.

The Bill creates a "protected disclosure", by which the worker making it must reasonably believe that the information shows that one of the following has occurred, is occurring or is likely to occur: (a) a criminal offence; (b) a failure to comply with any legal obligation (including any breach of a statutory requirement, or a requirement under common law or administrative law; (c) a miscarriage of justice; (d) danger to the health or safety of any individual; (e) damage to the environment; or (f) deliberate concealment of any of the above.

Clause 5 of the Bill inserts a new section into the Employment Rights Act 1996, establishing that an employee who is dismissed or made redundant for making a protected disclosure is unfairly dismissed. To qualify, the worker must be acting in good faith throughout, and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates the existence of one of the sorts of problems covered by the Bill. Disclosures are protected if they are made to the employer or other person responsible for the matter, to a relevant regulatory body or for the purpose of seeking legal advice. Other disclosures may be protected where in the circumstances they are reasonable. Special provision is made for disclosures relating to "exceptionally serious matters", which need not be raised first with an employer or regulatory body.

Under the amended Employment Rights Act 1996, a worker who is dismissed or penalised as a result of making a protected disclosure can complain to an industrial tribunal, which may award him compensation or make a re-employment order.

Whether the belief was reasonable is an objective test, which requires that in the circumstances there were plausible grounds for it. Whether such grounds existed may be determined by the industrial tribunal. In the case of a health and safety or environmental hazard, a disclosure is protected only if it indicates a greater danger than is associated with the normal use of the process or product, or a danger not normally associated with it. It is not protected if it involves the committing of an offence, for example, under the Official Secrets Act.

The Bill would have been unthinkable to Lord Bramwell but even by today's standards it is limited. Its provisions do not apply to the police or Armed Forces. Also, the maximum compensation limit is now set at £45,100, even for whistleblowers whose losses will exceed that sum. Many fear this will deter senior employees, with greatest access to inside information, from exposing abuse. And re-employment orders are unlikely to be used in many cases involving small firms.

● *Dr Slapper is director of the law programme for the Open University.*

Lord Irvine calls on Pannick

LORD IRVINE of Lairg has hired one of the country's leading silks, David Pannick, QC — who is a regular columnist on these pages — to defend the sex discrimination claims that are being brought against him.

The Lord Chancellor is being taken to an industrial tribunal for failing to advertise the post of his new special policy adviser. The job went to Garry Hart, a friend of both Lord Irvine and Tony Blair. But Jane Coker, a leading immigration solicitor, alleges that the Lord Chancellor used the old boy network and claims a breach of sex discrimination laws.

Meanwhile, Allan Percival, 47, has been appointed the Lord Chancellor's new spin-doctor. Formerly press secretary to the Prince of Wales, he will head the communications team handling the department's press relations.

Percival was chosen from eight applicants: the salary range is up to £82,000.

In another change at the department, Michael Huebner, now chief executive of the Court Service, has been placed in charge of judicial appointments to succeed Robin Holmes, who is retiring.

New view

CHARLES ABRAHAMS, a South African attorney who has just spent three months with Cloisters, the chambers of Laura Cox, QC, is the first recipient of the new Edward Quist-Arcton Trust Award.

He trained with a human rights centre, the South African Legal Resources Centre and now works in one of the townships. On his placement he saw all kinds of court work, sitting alongside Mr Justice Sedley for a week, which he describes as "the highlight of my stay". He has learnt a huge amount about judicial review, he says, adding: "It has given me a different perspective on how to tackle problems and on how I view the law."



Abrahams: award-winner

Critical switch

THE LAW SOCIETY has achieved a coup by persuading the highly regarded Roger Smith to join as its new director of education and training. As director of the Legal Action Group, a post he has held since 1986, Mr Smith has been a constant critic of the Law Society, especially over its historic resistance to changes to the legal aid system to improve the quality of advice given by solicitors. He was also highly critical of Martin Mears, whose tenure as Law Society President led to a haemorrhaging of senior staff at Chancery Lane.

Mr Smith's appointment will certainly improve the collective standing of the new batch of senior officials.

Polite notice

GEOFF HOON, the Parliamentary Secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department, is to travel to Cardiff this Thursday to discuss the Government's legal aid reform plans with local solicitors.

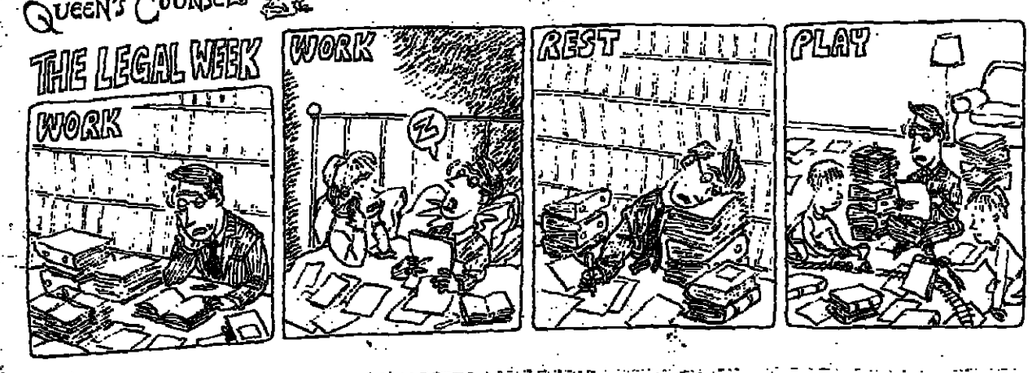
At least, that is the plan. He was due to do the same thing in Bristol two weeks ago. But he pulled out of the event after the Law Society's Bristol office issued a press release that promised he would be questioned by solicitors said to be "dismayed" by the Government's reforms.

This time, the society's Cardiff office is taking no chances. Its press release could not be more measured and polite. In it, Gwynfryn George, the president of the Associated Law Societies of Wales, says: "I believe that the meeting will be informative and constructive and we are delighted to receive the Parliamentary Secretary."

SCRIVENOR



Presiley Baxendale, QC (above), who rose to fame as counsel to the Scott inquiry, and Charles Flint, QC (above), have been elected joint heads of chambers at 2 Hare Court. The chambers, which is moving to new premises overlooking the Thames, will rename itself Blackstone Chambers.



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THE TIMES
LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FEATURE ON LEEDS AND SHEFFIELD

April 21st

Following the interest in and success of our Manchester and North West feature on February 17th we are now planning another four, the next being on April 21st focusing on the Leeds and Sheffield area.

There will be editorial featuring local practices and relevant issues pertinent to the legal profession in these areas highlighting the fact that the North is very much a thriving and competitive area within the Legal industry.

Space is available to advertise your firm, practice or a position. To find out more please contact the Legal Team with any questions and we will be delighted to tell you more.

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Intrusive Questions

There's an underlying contradiction in every interview However polite and considerate the interviewers may be, they're probing the candidate's strengths and weaknesses They're conducting a business interrogation. And as Dr Johnson once remarked to a man who persistently asked questions of him: "Questioning, Sir, is not a proper mode of conversation among gentleman."

At an interview, you have to accept that the interviewers are entitled to probe You may react against personal questions, taking the view that your private life is your own business But remember they're not just employing a technician, they're bringing you into their workplace community. How you relate to your colleagues, how you fit in, is as important to the success of their business as your technical skills They need to know therefore, what sort of person you are

A candidate failed an interview recently because he objected to questions about his father and mother and his family background. He felt that the firm was prejudiced against him In fact, it's one of the most tolerant, broadminded, meritocratic firms we deal with. Its partners come from a remarkable range of backgrounds. Had he passed them he would probably have loved it there.

Michael Chambers

CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY Our legal directory is available from Bibios. (01403 – 710 971)

INDUSTRY *Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis, Alicen Shepherd, Fiona Boxall*

Commercial: Bristol
Lots of responsibility for a No 2 lawyer c. 1-3 years' pqe to handle a broad workload including contracts, IP issues, some company secretarial work and commercial matters relating to manufacturing and retail.

Commercial Lawyer: Midlands
Strong communications skills & expce of project fin'ce required for lawyer min 5 yrs' pqe to join major services co and be part of strategic decision making process.

IP/IT/Patents: Berkshire
Telecom company with world-wide connections seeks solicitor with c. 3-6 years' pqe with IP/IT, patents and general commercial experience to join friendly and enthusiastic team. Excellent package.

Global Corporate: London
3-5 year pqe corporate lawyer with ability to see the global picture needed by international company with Japanese connections. A good understanding of EC and general company/commercial law is important.

Legal Adviser: London
Highly successful global property company seeks a solicitor with c. 2-4 years' pqe to provide advice and guidance on all their legal issues with a bias towards company/commercial and corporate finance.

Commercial Lawyer: France
Major international engineering co requires lawyer with approx 2 yrs' pqe. Contract drafting, negotiation and review; frequent travel. French highly desirable.

PRIVATE PRACTICE LONDON: *David Woolfson, Paul Thomas*
SOUTH: *Noel Murray, Hedley Walsh* NORTH: *Suki Bahra*

Energy Partner: City
Relatively recent player in the energy market but already winning major tenders against established practices seeks additional partner Electricity experience preferred.

Employment: City
Top 20 firm has a specific need, at partner level, for a specialist with a proven track record in either a City or top regional firm is required.

Training: City
Leading firm seeks 3 year plus qualified corporate solicitor for professional support role with emphasis on design and delivery of training courses.

Product Liability: City
Medium-sized practice seeks a solicitor with 3-5 years' pqe to expand its specialist department advising clients on pharmaceutical and medical related matters.

Commercial Property: City
High profile leisure and investment property team seeks 2-5 year qualified solicitor for broad range of work Substantial client contact

Professional Indemnity: City
Sought after top ten practice seeks a NQ-1 year pqe solicitor to undertake a caseload defending accountants, solicitors and surveyors.

Pensions Partner: City
Medium-sized firm, renown for its dynamic, meritocratic culture and high degree of profitability seeks solicitor at or just below partner level.

Insolvency: West End
Insolvency specialists seek a proactive and ambitious solicitor. This position is financially attractive and offers complete autonomy

Head of Property: Holborn
Gem of a niche firm with blue chip property clientele offers 7-15 year qualified solicitor high quality caseload and senior role shaping and developing a department.

Commercial Property: North London
High salary and prospects await ambitious solicitor wishing to handle broad based property caseload in busy dept. Impressive client base. Clear path to partnership.

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES

BANKING To £55,000
As this long-established but reinvigorated City firm builds a portfolio of excellent work and clients, this is a good time for a banking assistant with 1-3 years' pqe to move in as one of its few assistants and make themselves invaluable. The rewards for handling a varied caseload will come sooner, not later. **Ref: T27143**

CORPORATE FINANCE To £80,000
You will only be offered a position at one of the City's most profitable firms if you have the potential to become a partner within two or three years. That's the deal on the table for a corporate finance/M&A lawyer with 4+ years' very high quality pqe. With limited supervision, you will soon show your worth. **Ref: T47886**

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION Bristol To £35,000
The rapid growth of the south west as a legal centre is reflected by this enticing opportunity at this leading practice. As well as excellent work and prospects for a commercial litigator with 0-3 years' pqe, and perhaps experience in insolvency and/or employment, there is real quality of life in Bristol. **Ref: T44531**

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY To £45,000
The attractions of a well-known medium-sized City firm like this one for a commercial property lawyer with 1-2 years' pqe include a high level of responsibility, regular client contact and recognition when you do a good job. For a lawyer wanting a first move that will add real value to the CV, this is ideal. **Ref: T27375**

LITIGATION Hong Kong To £Competitive
Such is the quality of work at the Hong Kong office of this top 20 City firm that it can only consider 2-5 year qualified litigators from other top-notch City firms. As well as working for one of the best established Hong Kong offices, you will be given every chance to enjoy the many delights the island offers. **Ref: T48575**

CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL To £50,000
A US firm without the usual billing pressures - that's the offer from the London office of this US firm, which needs a corporate/commercial lawyer with 1-4 years' pqe and marketing skills to advise on a broad spread of work, much of it in media, such as film contracts. **Ref: T17832**

IT/IP To £60,000
This is an excellent opportunity for non-contentious IT/IP lawyers with 1-7 years' pqe. This major City firm has recently consolidated its position as a market leader in IT/IP work and offers a very bright future to talented lawyers who genuinely enjoy working in a team atmosphere. **Ref: T10835**

PRIVATE CLIENT To £70,000
While some major City firms have scaled down their private client operations, this medium-sized practice has expanded it, giving it a pre-eminent position in the market. This makes it the perfect move for all-rounder private client lawyers who want to be taken seriously, especially if they have 2 or 4+ years' pqe. **Ref: T47896**

CORPORATE TAX To £200,000
The salaries on offer for corporate tax lawyers at all levels, from newly qualified to partner, reflect both the importance this leading medium-sized City firm puts on the area and the quality of work and clients it has for you to advise on. The new partner will need the right skills to be the head of department. **Ref: T44428**

IP To £80,000
This is an opening at a deservedly very high-profile IP firm which has a clear path to partnership. A 4-6 years qualified non-contentious specialist needs to know enough about contentious work to supervise more junior lawyers This could be the final move of your career. **Ref: T25214**

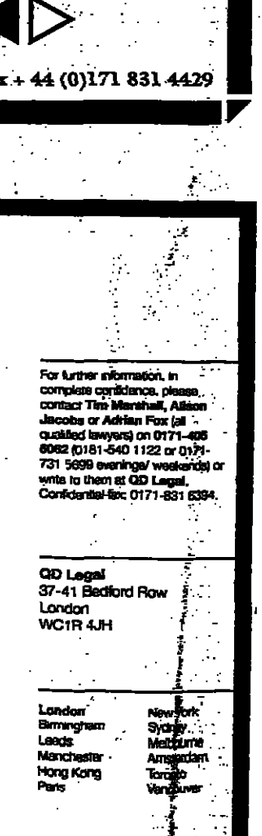
BANKING To £55,000
Few firms match the top medium-sized City firm for its commitment to assistants' training and development, let alone for the salaries on offer. Banking lawyers with 2-4 years' pqe will also enjoy a broad spread of work and genuine responsibility in a career plan that the firm expects will lead you to partnership. **Ref: T47885**

MEDIA To £Equity
This well regarded medium-sized City firm with an outstanding media practice requires media lawyers 2-4 years' qualified and at senior level. Mainly contentious At senior end will need a following. Excellent opportunity. **Ref: T48033**

For further information, in complete confidence, please, contact Tina Marshall, Alison Jacobs or Adrian Fox (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0181-540 1122 or 0171-731 5699 evenings/ weekends) or write to them at QD Legal, Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

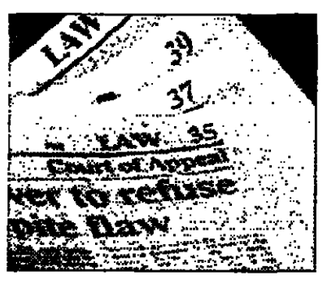
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Frances Gibb reports on the winners of the Times/Justice legal awards


ALAN WELLER

The Chancellor, centre, who presented prizes to Edward Fitzgerald, QC, left; Francesca Klug; and Catherine Carpenter and John Fitzpatrick of the Kent Law Clinic

Brave fighters for justice

Edward Fitzgerald, QC, the leading human rights barrister, Francesca Klug, one of the driving forces beind the Human Rights Bill, and the pioneering Kent Law Clinic were presented last week with the first *Times*/Justice legal awards for their outstanding contributions to criminal and civil justice.

Presenting the awards at a reception at 11 Downing Street, Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that "through their efforts they have enabled and promoted the rights of individuals least able to assert themselves".

The awards were created to mark the 40th anniversary of Justice, the all-party human rights group. A panel of judges, including Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Robert Ayling, chief executive of British Airways and Chris Mullin, MP, chairman of the Commons Home Affairs Committee, picked the winners from 100 nominations. They looked for people or organisations that have displayed an outstanding commitment to justice, whose tireless and often unpaid efforts have — as Mr Brown put it — "made a real difference".

Above all, they looked for the quality of courage.

Edward Fitzgerald, winner in the criminal justice category, is a barrister who has made his name as a fearless fighter for often unpopular causes. Anne Owers, director of Justice and one of the judges, noted his "outstanding integrity, commitment and courage" over many years and across a range of cases: rights of prisoners, the Bridgewater Three and unpaid work for prisoners on death row.

His work has often brought him into conflict with the executive; As Michael Grieve, a barrister nominating him, recalled: "Michael Howard, when he was Home Secretary, once greeted him with the words 'Hello Edward, you're a complete thorn in my side'."

By contrast, his name is such high currency among death row inmates, as one solicitor put it, that they write directly to him asking him to act. One senior judge said: "Over the years he has changed the culture of the way the courts think about prisoners' rights."

Lord Justice Schiemann said: "He could have made a fortune had he chosen to devote his talents to other fields of practice; he chose not to do so."

Ms Owers also paid tribute to others on the shortlist: Saul Lehrfreund, from Simons Muirhead & Burton who, with Parvais Jabbar, has acted for hundreds of death row litigants before the Privy Council. The other contenders were Raju Bhatt, solicitor at Birnbergs, James Nichol, solicitor at Taylor Nichol, Gareth Peirce, also of Birnbergs, and Ann Whelan (the mother of Michael Hickey, one of the Bridgewater Threee) and Laura Mattan, wife of Mahmood Mattan, whose conviction was this year quashed in the Court of Appeal 46 years after he was hanged.

The task of selecting a winner was harder in the field of civil justice. Two of the shortlisted candidates, Geoffrey Bindman and Benedict Birnberg, have achieved so much over such a period of time that, as Ms Owers put it, their trails are still being blazed and lawyers from both firms were on the shortlist. The other candidates were: Stephen Grosz of Bindmans, the Legal Action Group, the Aire Centre, which provides a free advisory service, particularly to immigrants, and the 1990 Trust, a national black organisation that pursues equality for black people.

In the end, the judges made the award jointly to two of the lesser-known candidates: the Kent Law Clinic and **Francesca Klug**, an academic who has worked with many groups — the Runnymede Trust, Liberty, Charter 88 and the Human Rights Centre at Essex. She has been concerned, Ms Owers said, with "causes rather than her career" and through quiet work behind the scenes has had an impact that later resulted in changes in the law. In particular, she had been a moving spirit behind the Human Rights Bill and had done much to create a "culture of rights". Andrew Puddephatt, director of Charter 88, said in nominating her: "Her assiduous lobbying of successive Labour administrations ... has been crucial. It is easy for people such as Francesca to be overlooked when accolades are being handed out."

The **Kent Law Clinic**, part of Kent University, has pioneered grassroots help in the community, using students, local lawyers and lecturers. Since 1993 it has helped more than 2,000 people and secured more than £250,000 in compensation, taking cases in the county and High Court and before tribunals. It has succeeded in providing legal advice and help for people who could otherwise not afford it. Equally important, it has developed what has been called "a new generation of students with a strong sense of the importance of public legal service".

'NO WIN' FEELS THE FORCE OF LAW

Remember the elephants

THE Government's plans to expand "no win, no fee" work have been given the go-ahead by the courts. On March 6, the Court of Appeal gave a ruling (*The Thai Trading Company v. Taylor*), which seems finally to have legitimised conditional fee agreements and other kinds of litigation where fees are based on results — well before the Government has acted to extend "no win" fees.

The ruling is a result far removed from the underlying cause of the legal action, a small but exotic dispute over a wooden bed and a contract for decorative carved elephants, dragons and a Thai monkey-god.

The appeal court judges have provided fresh authority on the legal status of rules of professional conduct relating to fees, and overturned previous rulings which declared such bargains unlawful.

In *Thai*, Taylors, of Caversham, Berkshire, entered into what amounted to a "no win" agreement. The appeal court endorsed it, which will prompt litigators to venture more widely into such work in future. The practical effect is that people with strong cases — but no funds — should be able to obtain a solicitor to bring a case on a "no win, no fee" basis; and the solicitor will not have the risk of not recovering his fees if he wins.

Lawyers will not be able to recover a specific "enhanced" fee as they do now under other "no win" agreements. But it is likely they would just increase their normal fees to take account of the extra risk of the litigation.

The judges also appear to have given approval to other kinds of fee packages, such as fee discounts for "lost cases", which have been offered by firms seeking to attract bulk work.

JASON WILLIAMS

● *Dr Williams is a barrister at 3 Dr Johnson's Buildings and was counsel for the appellants in Thai Trading. He is the author of* Williams: Civil and Criminal Procedure.

A new contingency?

PETER HURST, the Chief Taxing Master, has predicted that contingency fees will eventually replace the conditional fee agreement entirely. Writing on the decision in *Thai Trading v Taylor* in the *New Law Journal* of March 20, Mr Hurst said: "The likelihood is that conditional fee agreements will become redundant and give way to contingent fee agreements. The concept of the success fee would disappear and the 'ordinary' charging rate of the solicitor would be arrived at by experience as more accurate data are accumulated."

In legislating for conditional fee agreements, Section 58 (2) of the Courts and Legal Service Act 1990 provided for a percentage increase (now known as the success fee) "above the amount which would be payable if it were not a conditional fee agreement".

When I asked the Lord Chancellor's Department what this meant, it replied: "The uplift will fall upon the fees which the solicitor would charge his client under the normal remuneration procedure. The solicitor and client can agree any amount as the fee." Precisely. No two firms of solicitors have the same rates and system of charging and no individual firm charges all its clients at the same rate — it depends on many factors. I think solicitors are too cautious about agreeing to litigate for a fixed fee.

It would be very difficult to show that any reasonable solicitor and client agreement was champertous, which Lord Denning described as a particularly obnoxious form of maintenance where a maintainer seeks to make a profit out of another man's action.

There was no need for a success fee. The machinery for protecting the client from an avaricious solicitor was already in place in the Solicitors Act 1974 and in the Rules of the Supreme Court 1965.

It is ironic that at a time when the Lord Chancellor is considering extending the provisions for conditional fee agreements, the Court of Appeal should demonstrate and confirm that they are not necessary. Solicitors have been "speccing" from time immemorial — acting for clients who cannot pay their fees unless they win. The belief that speccing was against public policy has been disproved. It has come out of the closet.

MICHAEL COOK

● *The author, a circuit judge, is Editor of* Cook on Costs.

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PATENT LITIGATOR — *3 Years Qualified +* — *£Excellent*
Highly regarded and innovative intellectual property department in the City is seeking a senior patent litigator to add to its successful team. The firm has acted on numerous high profile matters across a broad spectrum and is known for its robust and commercial approach. Applicants must have excellent experience in this area and have the marketing flair to develop a practice. Ref:T12175.L

SHIPPING — *Partner* — *£Excellent*
This is a rare opportunity for a senior shipping lawyer (late 40s/ early 50s) to join a niche but high profile shipping firm. The work and clientele is largely international so overseas connections would be an advantage although by no means essential. The firm is flexible as to the bias of your practice, but can offer you the chance to expand on your existing following in a supportive but hands-off environment. If you are currently dissatisfied this is the one for you.
Ref:T10518.H.

ASSET FINANCE — *1 to 6 Years Qualified* — *to £68,000*
A newly formed aviation finance team within the banking group of this leading international City firm advises banks, lenders, manufacturers, operators and airlines on both traditional and more highly structured methods of financing aircraft and other large assets worldwide. Clients span the US, Europe and the Far East. If you have experience in tax, leasing, banking, aircraft, ship or other asset finance then this first class career move could be for you. Ref: T13038P

EMPLOYMENT — *4 Years Qualified+* — *£Partnership*
Long established London firm renowned for its tax and offshore trust expertise is now seeking to broaden its employment practice. You will need to be a developer of work, enthusiastic and technically able to assist with the firms already increasing workload - both contentious and non-contentious matters. Both senior assistants and partners with some form of following very welcome. A good chance to make your mark in a friendly firm.
Ref T03139.K

BANKING INFORMATION OFFICER — *3 Years+ Qualified* — *to £75,000*
This progressive City of London firm, well-known for employing extremely bright, outgoing solicitors, has a know-how position available with a high level of responsibility for those with good transactional banking experience. Your role will involve co-ordinating the entire banking department's information system precedents, on-line systems and IT support package for a highly regarded position where you will not be treated as a second class citizen. Ref: D3838.P

INSOLVENCY — *1 to 4 Years Qualified* — *to £66,000*
A good insolvency lawyer of between one to four years pqe is now needed to compliment this top City firm's very capable insolvency team. The work, of an international flavour, will involve both contentious and non-contentious matters advising on reconstructions, debt restructuring and a range of clients. Medium to large firm background with strong academics is necessary not forgetting a good personality.
Ref.T6898.K

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At Sainsbury's there's always plenty of variety - and that doesn't stop with the products we stock in our stores. As you can imagine, with a Group that consists of four major companies in the UK - Sainsbury's Supermarkets, Savacentre, Homebase and the recently established Sainsbury's Bank - no two working days are ever the same.

As a result of expansion within our Group Legal Services Department, we now wish to establish a new Commercial Law section. Its primary function will be to provide largely non-contentious advice and assistance to colleagues throughout the Group on contracting, competition and I.P. matters.

Senior Legal Adviser

As Senior Legal Adviser you will oversee the work carried out by the section. One day you might be agreeing the terms and conditions of a sponsorship deal with the Marketing Department, the next fine-tuning a contract with a haulage company for our Distribution Centres. You will therefore have substantial experience in drafting and negotiating a wide range of commercial agreements, along with the ability to work closely with all levels of Sainsbury's personnel, up to the Board.

As this is a new operation, you will be an ambitious, self-motivated individual who enjoys a challenge. Your communication and influencing skills will be second to none and you'll have a hands-on approach to problem solving. With 7 years' relevant PQE, some of which will have been gained in-house, and preferably some experience of IT contracting, you'll be the ideal candidate for this high profile role.

Legal Adviser

We also have a vacancy for a more junior person to work as an assistant within the same section. With approximately 4 years' PQE, again some of which has been gained in-house, you will have the ability to 'hit the ground running' and enjoy the challenge of a heavy, but varied workload.

In return for either post, you can expect a competitive salary and wide range of company benefits, including profit sharing, health insurance, staff discounts and, for the senior post, a car, share option schemes and bonus arrangement, subject to qualifying periods.

So if you feel you'd like more variety than your current role offers, please send a CV and covering letter explaining which post you are applying for and why you feel you are suitable to: Ms J. Ogundele, Finance Personnel, J. Sainsbury plc, Stamford House, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LL, to be received no later than April 14th

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litigation — *wc2* — *partnership*
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Contact Stephen Watkins (Ref: 16806)

property — *city* — *£negotiable*
Use your ambitions streak to its full advantage. This leading team needs a further senior player in the information technology field. Already strong in both IT and IP, this department has plenty of scope for you to make your mark. Likely to be a senior assistant or junior partner you can see the potential for future growth in the IT field and want to work with others who have a similar vision. Clear prospects.
Contact Sue Iveson (Ref: 16943 SI)

information technology — *inns* — *c£35,000*
Handling a mix of commercial property the bias department of this established and friendly firm now needs an additional assistant admitted about 18 months. The range embraces estate purchases, brokers, agricultural property and some development work. Headed by three partners, this is a team that prides itself on working well together, valuing individual contributions. Client care and development are of paramount importance. Excellent career progression.
Contact Stephen Watkins (Ref: 16829)

insurance litigation — *ec3* — *to partnership*
Fast growing city office (currently 4 partners and 10 assistants) of rapidly expanding insurance-based firm with fully integrated national network of seven offices seeks insurance litigators of over seven years' experience and a good knowledge of the London insurance market who can bring with them if not a following, the making of one in the form of very good contacts and business development skills. Also room for junior assistants 0-2 years qualified with professional indemnity and/or London market experience.
Contact Andrew Howe Browne (Ref: 16886 AHB)

employment — *central london* — *partnership*
The continued growth of the employment market gives rise to roles with great potential such as this. A further employment partner is sought to add weight to this medium sized Central London firm. If you have client credibility in the form of a following, strong experience of contentious and non-contentious employment work and a determination to progress you will find a number of like-minded individuals in the partnership. The existing employment practice is thriving and the firm is confident of the additional scope.
Contact Sue Iveson (Ref: 15741 SI)

corporate/commercial — *rome* — *to partnership*
Leading US global law firm with offices in all the major world centres is positioning itself to take a substantial share of international corporate business in the fragmented legal market in Italy. In pursuit of its strategic decision to bypass the industrial north and open an office in the heart of Italian Rome where winners are short our client seeks applications from well qualified corporate and commercial lawyers from partner level down with a knowledge of Italian business and/or Italian language and/or qualified in Italy.
Contact Andrew Howe Browne (Ref: 16775 AHB)

hays richard owen, kingsway house, 103 kingsway london, wc2b 6qx
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The role will consist of a broad range of corporate and commercial matters. The work will have tremendous variety and a strong international flavour.

This is a unique opportunity to enjoy a mixed transactional and advisory role, working in a non-hierarchical high grade team of lawyers. The ideal candidate will have 3-5 years' corporate and commercial experience acquired in a leading law firm. In-house experience will be an advantage. You will have qualified in a civil law jurisdiction or will be familiar with systems of civil law. Working knowledge of French or German and possibly another European language is essential.

For further information in complete confidence please contact our retained consultants, **Lisa Owens** or **Lizzie Orange** on 0171 523 3822 (0171 642 5237 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **ZMB Industry, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY.** Confidential fax 0171-523 3823. E-mail lisa@zmb.co.uk This assignment is being handled exclusively by ZMB Industry. All direct and third party applications will be forwarded to ZMB Industry.

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A fantastic opportunity for a 5 year qualified US/UK corporate lawyer to join the legal team of this highly successful multi-media company based in New York. You will have excellent transactional experience, preferably media-related, and must be eligible to work in the US. (Ref.22455)

PROJECT FINANCE TO £70,000
World leading multinational practice is looking for a 1-5 years' pqe lawyer from a City firm familiar with both finance and project documents. You will have experience of representing lenders and, ideally, specific knowledge of the power sector. A highly competitive salary is offered. (Ref. 21871)

CONSTRUCTION TO £70,000
One of the most prestigious medium sized City firms, with an outstanding corporate client base and excellent staff retention and morale, is looking for a non-contentious construction lawyer with 1-5 years' pqe. Top quality work and a superb working environment available. (Ref. 21733)

INSOLVENCY TO £65,000
A superb opportunity for a dynamic and motivated lawyer with 1-4 years' pqe to join highly successful energetic contentious insolvency group of a leading international law firm. You will gain excellent experience of high-profile work and receive a terrific financial package. (Ref. 21145)

CO/CO - WEST LONDON c.£45,000
This NYSE quoted, technology services company, with subsidiaries throughout Europe provides asset management solutions, leasing and consulting services. The UK Legal Director is looking for a 2 year qualified lawyer to support the full range of commercial activity. A good first move. (Ref. 22494)

ASSET FINANCE £80,000
Highly regarded leasing company needs a 4-6 year qualified banking lawyer to join its close-knit team. You will deal with highly structured, big ticket, leasing arrangements in the UK and internationally, as well as general financial and commercial matters. Excellent package and quality of life on offer. (Ref. 22488)

COMMERCIAL LIT EXCELLENT
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FILM FINANCE TO £65,000
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CORPORATE TO £60,000
Meteoric rise in reputation and quality work of this progressive media/IT led niche practice has resulted in the need for corporate lawyers at all levels for a wide range of work. Clients are the cream of the entertainment/high tech industries. Fantastic opportunity for fast track progression. (Ref. 19180)

COMM PROPERTY TO £53,000
Leading City property practice seeks a lawyer with 3-4 years' pqe. Handling high profile development work, investment portfolios for the largest institutional clients and property aspects of high profile corporate transactions, this position should sate the appetite of the most ambitious candidate. (Ref. 21332)

For further information on private practice vacancies please contact **Andy Caulfield** or **Yvonne Smyth** on 0171 523 3838 (01483 828110 evenings/weekends). Fax 0171 523 3839. E-mail aodyc@zmb.co.uk For in-house vacancies contact **Lizzie Orange** at **ZMB Industry** on 0171 523 3822 (0181 740 4108 evenings/weekends). Fax 0171 523 3823. E-mail lizzie@zmb.co.uk. Alternatively please write to **ZMB**, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. ZMB and ZMB Industry, Zarak Group Companies.

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Ref: 25126 Samantha Malin

Property - 2-4 years' pqe
An excellent opportunity exists for lawyers with 2-4 years' pqe to join this outstanding property team in one of the City's leading firms.
Ref: 39181 Samantha Malin

Commercial - 0-3 years' pqe
One of the very best smaller City *firms seeks 2 high-quality lawyers to* handle full range of commercial agreements and related matters
Ref: 39815 Philip Boynton

Reinsurance - 0-4 years' pqe
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The ideal applicants will have a first class academic background and at least 3 years post qualification experience with a leading City firm or London chambers in any one or more of the fields of **international asset tracing, insolvency or professional negligence claims.** The starting salary will be up to $150,000 and there is no personal taxation in the Cayman Islands.

For further information in complete confidence please contact **Jane Foster** at **Laurence Simons International** on **0171 831 3270** or write to her at the address below enclosing a full CV.

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We have a unique blend of experience gained from working as a corporate lawyer and as Head of Human Resources respectively at two of the leading City firms. As a result we like to think that our grasp and appreciation of the UK legal market is genuinely second to none. Thankfully many of our clients agree!

The following lists a selection of current central London private practice opportunities.

Corporate

CORPORATE FINANCE Top ten City firm; Yellow/Blue Book experience essential, 1-3 years' pqe to £52,000
VENTURE CAPITAL Profitable, go-ahead progressive firm - institutions/investors, partner/senior associate £120,000+
COMMERCIAL INSOLVENCY Profitable, progressive City firm with extensive accountancy/banking clientele £50,000
EU/COMPETITION City major with high profile department and reputable Brussels office NQ-2yrs £42,000
ACQUISITIONS & DISPOSALS Top US firm in City with extensive public company client base, 5 yrs'+ £90,000+
NON-CONTENTIOUS INSURANCE Top City firm for restructuring and Lloyd's work, junior partner level £120,000+

Banking/Finance

CAPITAL MARKETS Partner designate Top Ten City firm with strong international clientele £130,000
PROJECT FINANCE US firm with extensive Far/Middle East infrastructure workload, 2yrs' pqe+ £70,000+
INVESTMENT FUNDS Junior-level assistant for medium/large City firm. Excellent training £42,000
FINANCIAL SERVICES Partner top 20 City firm with wholesale experience of SIB/ SROs Rules £175,000
CAPITAL MARKETS US firm seeking immediate partner with securitisation/derivatives experience £400,000+
STRUCTURED FINANCE Top US firm in London seeking junior assistant £45,000+
ACQUISITION FINANCE Highly reputable City law firm needing senior assistants/ junior partners to £140,000
SHIP FINANCE 1-4 yrs' pqe to join top internationally minded firm to £58,000
GENERAL BANKING City major seeks 2-4 year associates with lender/borrower clients £60,000

Property/Intellectual Property

PROPERTY High profile medium sized central London firm; 1-4 years' pqe £50,000+
PROPERTY FINANCE All manner of secured lending at leading international City practice Senior asst. to £80,000
WEST END PROPERTY Newly qualified. Wonderful developer/institutional client list; great training! £31,000
OUTSOURCING Senior assistant for partnership track at leading City IT firm £85,000+
TELECOMS Junior assistant transactional and regulatory work. Leading international firm £50,000
HEALTHCARE Pharmaceuticals sector work incl. product regulation, labelling and liability. 1-3 yr qualifier to £46,000

Tax/Pensions

CORPORATE TAX Top City firm; offering NQ tax lawyer outstanding training and development £33,000
PENSIONS Highly regarded friendly medium-sized City practice. Transactional/ advisory experience. 1-3 years' pqe to £48,000
TAX MAN...or woman to handle acquisitions/disposals and advisory work. Partner elect. £100,000
PENSIONS City major seeks senior assistant with gravitas, management experience, broad pensions backbround £90,000
OFFSHORE TAXES 1-4 assistant will find this City tax department a breath of fresh air to £58,000

For more information, in strictest confidence on these or other career opportunities please feel free to contact Mark Field or Hugh Kelly on 0171 588 7878 (0171 937 6894 weekends) or write to them at Kellyfield Consulting, Moor House, 119 London Wall, London EC2Y 5ET. Confidential fax: 0171 588 7020.

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EMPLOYMENT Holborn
If you are a committed and personable lawyer (0-4yrs pqe) looking to make a real contribution in a close knit team, then *this highly regarded Holborn firm will definitely appeal.* Attractive package.

PRIVATE CLIENT City
Leading private client team of medium-sized firm which has enjoyed tremendous success and growth over the last couple of years, seeks 1-3yrs pqe lawyer for broad personal tax and trusts caseload.

MED NEGLIGENCE City
Exciting opening for 3-5yrs pqe litigator with medical negligence exp'ce, to join *highly regarded product liability team of* medium-sized firm with outstanding insurance reputation.

CONSTRUCTION LIT. West End
Due to expansion, an excellent opportunity has arisen in this open and friendly commercial practice. Would suit talented junior lawyer (0-2yrs pqe) with some construction litigation experience wishing to specialise in this field.

CORPORATE KNOW HOW City
This first class City firm prides itself on its congenial environment and now seeks a bright, high calibre lawyer (2 yrs+ pqe) to create & develop a know how role. Excellent alternative to long hours & time sheets! Full/part time.

COMMERCIAL London
Escape the confines of the City! This firm offers an extensive range of high value commercial work (including IP & IT) *together with an unrivalled quality of train*ing and competitive salary. NQ/2-4yrs pqe.

COMMERCIAL LIT. City
Due to expansion, an excellent opportunity has arisen at friendly medium-sized firm for bright 1-4yr pqe lawyer to handle exciting blend of international & domestic litigation.

SHIPPING LITIGATION City
Niche shipping practice seeks bright 1-4yrs pqe lawyer to handle interesting mix of wet and dry work. Attractive package & friendly working atmosphere.

COMM. PROPERTY City
Our client is a highly successful, niche City firm with strong international connections. The property dept. acts for a broad range of clients in the media and leisure industries, as well as developers and investors and now seek a commited 1- 4 yrs pqe lawyer to join them.

EC/COMPETITION Leeds
Major firm has a superb opportunity for junior lawyer (6 mths - 3 yrs pqe) with EC/competition experience to join its thriving team. Good drafting skills vital and French desirable. Excellent first move from a major City/regional firm.

FAMILY Bristol
Rare opportunity at leading firm for jnr lawyer (NQ-1 yr pqe) with track record in privately funded family work. Major City/ regional firm background essential.

INSURANCE LIT. Bristol
Outstanding opportunity exists with major firm for a bright lawyer (2 yrs+ pqe) to handle high quality defendant P.I. work. Exp'ce gained within a strong Insurance Lit. department essential.

CORPORATE Reading
Top firms are currently seeking high calibre corporate lawyers (NQ - associate level) for City quality work.

Please contact Melanie Mitchell-Baker (London), Ita McElhatton (Regions) or Bridget Burdon (In-House) at Graham Gill & Young Legal Recruitment, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Tel 0171 430 1711. Fax 0171 831 4186.

CO/COM c.3yrs
W. London-Excellent opportunity for bright young co/com lawyer to join legal team of blue chip FMCG co., a world leader in marketing & branding, handling an international workload.

CONSTRUCTION 1-4yrs
London-Great opportunity for bright young construction lawyer to join respected legal team at major industry body. The team's role includes providing advice to members, representing industry views to government and advising on new legislation.

INSOLVENCY 2-5yrs
London-Niche corporate advisory services group seeks business minded insolvency solicitor. As part of a multi-disciplinary team, you will handle a broad mixture of contentious and non-contentious work.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS c.2-4yrs
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INTERNATIONAL COMM 3-5yrs
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- A market leader in the services sector;
- A commitment to a dynamic acquisition programme in Europe and world-wide;
- Working closely with the Corporate Development team as well as senior, regional and local management in the UK acquisition process;
- More broadly, providing legal input for a diverse range of projects encompassing general commercial issues, marketing, compliance and employment issues;
- A legal team which has a high profile in the company ensuring excellent quality work for the lawyers.

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For further information in complete confidence please contact our retained consultant, Lisa Owens on 0171 523 3822 (0171 642 5237 evenings/weekends) or write to her at ZMB Industry, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-523 3823. E-mail lisa@zmb.co.uk ZMB Industry, a Zarak Group Company.

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The salary for this position will be highly competitive, but depend on age and experience. We also offer a full range of benefits. If you want to join us, send your c.v. and a letter explaining how you can contribute to our growth to: Iain Reid, Personnel Director, Martin Currie Ltd, Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2ES.

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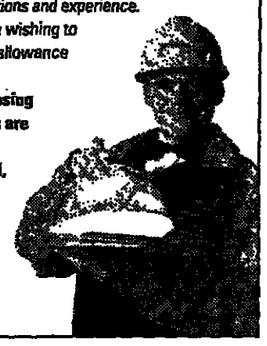
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Applications should be made in writing with detailed C.V. and the names of at least two referees, to Mr. R. A. Ogilvie-Smals, Head of Legal Department, GKN plc, PO Box 55, Ipsley House, Ipsley Church Lane, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 0TL.

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- Partnership
- Property litigation
- Commercial fraud
- Trusts & Probate
- Intellectual Property

Applications should be addressed to the Chairman of the Tenancy Committee and will be treated in strict confidence.

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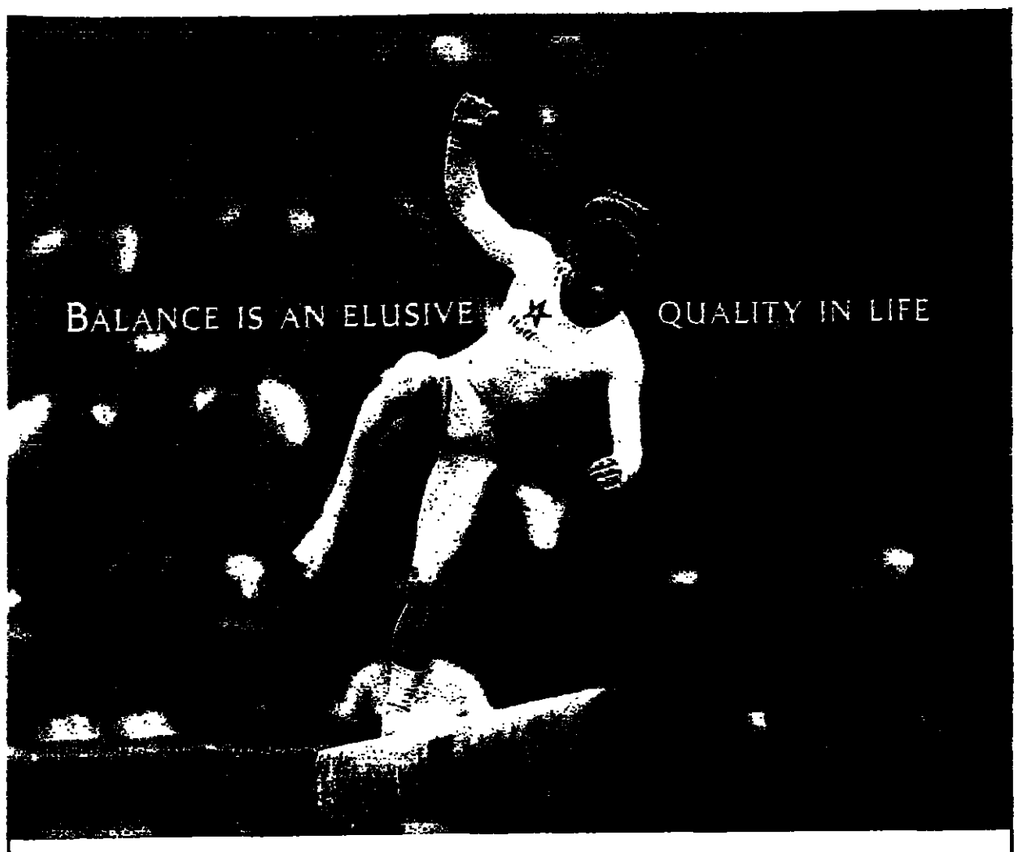
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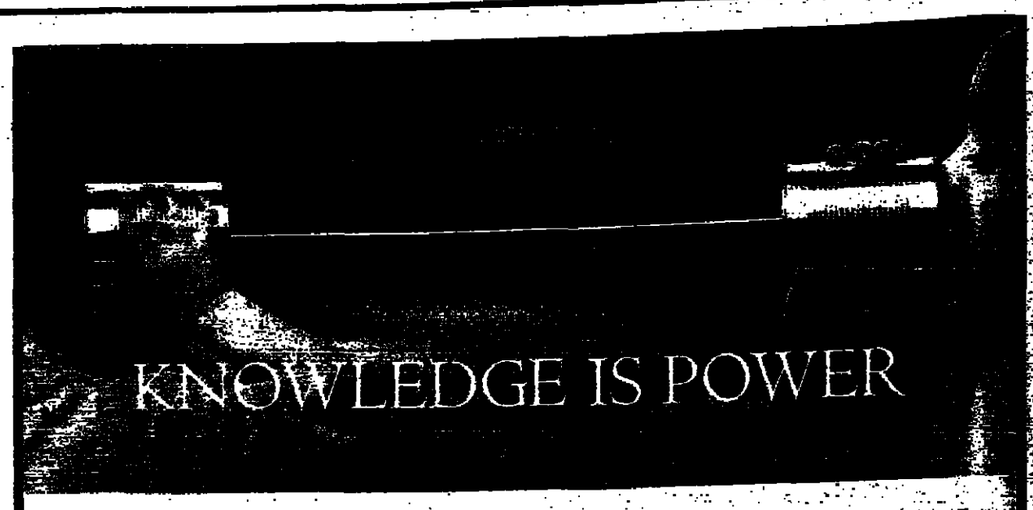
Let's talk. Please contact either Nicki Farrant or Paul Green in our Personnel Department on tel: 0171 320 6016 or 0171 320 6017, or write to us with your CV at Denton Hall, 5 Chancery Lane, Clifford's Inn, *London EC4A 1BU.*

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- Department of Health/Department of Social Security
- Home Office
- HM Land Registry
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- Lord Chancellor's Department,
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  The Law Commission
- Department of Trade & Industry
- Treasury Solicitor's Department

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For further details and an application pack, contact The GLS Recruitment Team, Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS. Tel: 0171 210 3304. E-mail: info.gls@gtnet.gov.uk

Closing date for submission of applications is 9am on Friday 24 April 1998.

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You will participate in a wide range of M&A transactional work and will also provide general commercial legal support to the group's subsidiaries, world-wide.

Key responsibilities will include working closely with two other lawyers and senior management to evaluate and implement the group's acquisitions strategy and organic growth in the UK and world-wide. You will also be dealing with a range of other internal and external advisers.

The Person

To perform this role you must be:

- a 0-2 year qualified lawyer currently working in either a commercial or transactional role. International M&A experience would be useful but is not essential;
- well motivated, confident and have excellent communications skills;
- capable of liaising as a team player at all levels within the organisation;
- someone who displays a practical, commercial approach to your work.

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Your profile:

- A UK or European qualified lawyer with between 6-15 years pqe and a track record of senior legal support to management.
- Relevant commercial experience with significant in-house exposure (knowledge of the sector is advantageous but not a pre-requisite).
- An additional European language would be useful.

The position requires a self-starter with outstanding communication skills who is able to work autonomously. Our client has a reputation for recruiting and retaining the best people.

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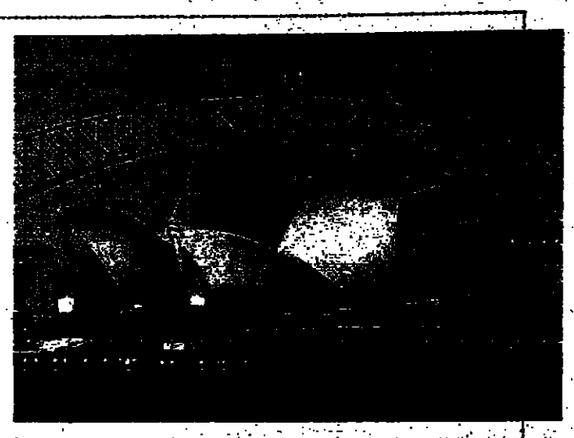
Australasia is buzzing. Levels of business activity are at an all time high and outstanding opportunities exist for solicitors in Australia and New Zealand.

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Personal attributes are as, if not more, important than specific legal experience. Applications are invited from bright lawyers, who have gained solid legal training in securities, banking or corporate work and are capable of working autonomously in a small team.

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RACING

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Nap: Top Jean

SHEETES

By Robert Sheeter

I was East in the Festival, play

Dealer East

♠2
♥K 10 6 5
♦10 9 6
♣A K 10 5 4

W
4 S

Contract: Four Spades

I suppose it is South's overcall Spades with the but it always out that dummy with a suitable Townsend led the clubs. Declarer ace and a low h trick with the should I defend?

I thought that sible my partner doubleton diamond didn't take our would disappear would draw trump ing one heart ruff the king of diamond er correctly dropped under that, so when ner played the possible that he had with the six and continued with diamond, and ha over — whatever declarer could rounds of trumps

WORD-WATCH

By Philip Howard

FLEHMEN
a. Sputum
b. A grimace
c. Blossom

RUNAGATES
a. Vagabonds
b. Starting stalls
c. Green beans

RACING

Jockeys call the shots over Aintree obstacles

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

MINI cameras will be attached to jockeys' helmets for the first time in Britain this week at the Grand National meeting — presenting a unique view of riding over Aintree's famous fences.

The Jockey Club has given the go-ahead for three jockeys to be fitted with the recording equipment in three races — the John Hughes Trophy on Thursday, the Martell Fox Hunters' Chase on Friday and the Martell Grand National on Saturday — all involving the National fences.

The footage will be processed to create a virtual reality ride, the star attraction in the Aintree visitors' centre when it opens next summer, and allow people to share a jockey's view of the race. Although live footage is unlikely to be shown on television, the BBC may use it for replays this week.

The breakthrough in sharing the exhilaration of jumping Aintree's big fences follows development work by the BBC's special facilities unit, carried out with guidance from the Jockey Club.

As a result, a mini camera and transmitter have been developed weighing just over 2lb. All the equipment will be included when the jockey weighs out for a race and when weighing in afterwards. The camera will be fixed to the top of a rider's helmet when the transmitter is sewn into a vest worn over the top of a jockey's body protector.

Tony Goodhew, the Jockey Club's director of racecourse services, said yesterday: "We are delighted that the BBC has overcome the practical difficulties of designing a camera that can be safely attached to a jockey's helmet. The device has been examined and approved by Dr Michael Turner, the chief medical adviser."

Malcolm Kemp, the BBC's executive racing producer, added: "The BBC may use extracts in post-race replays, although I do not expect to show live shots. What happens very much depends on the quality of the pictures we receive."

There are 50 runners left in contention for the Grand National after yesterday's five-day declaration stage — which should ensure a maximum field of 40 for the £360,000-added race.

The build-up to this year's race has been relatively low key, but Rough Quest, the winner of the race two years ago, continues to attract support and William Hill yesterday trimmed him from 12-1 to 10-1. Ladbrokes bets: 10-1 Rough Quest, 12-1 Suny Bay, Challenger Du Luc, Him Of Praise, Samlee, 16-1 Earth Summit, Stormtracker, 20-1 others. The going on the National course is good to soft, soft in places, and rain is forecast for later in the week.

As Aintree's press officer since 1976, Nigel Payne has witnessed all the drama of the world's most famous steeplechase at first hand, but this year he could end up as part of the Grand National story. He is the driving force behind Earth Summit, owned by a six-strong syndicate, who has already won the Welsh and Scottish Nationals.

Payne said yesterday: "Earth Summit is in great fettle and Nigel Twiston-Davies, his trainer, says that he will be spot on for the race. Down the years, I have seen a fair amount of excitement — including the void race and last year's delayed race — but this excitement may be more difficult to handle."

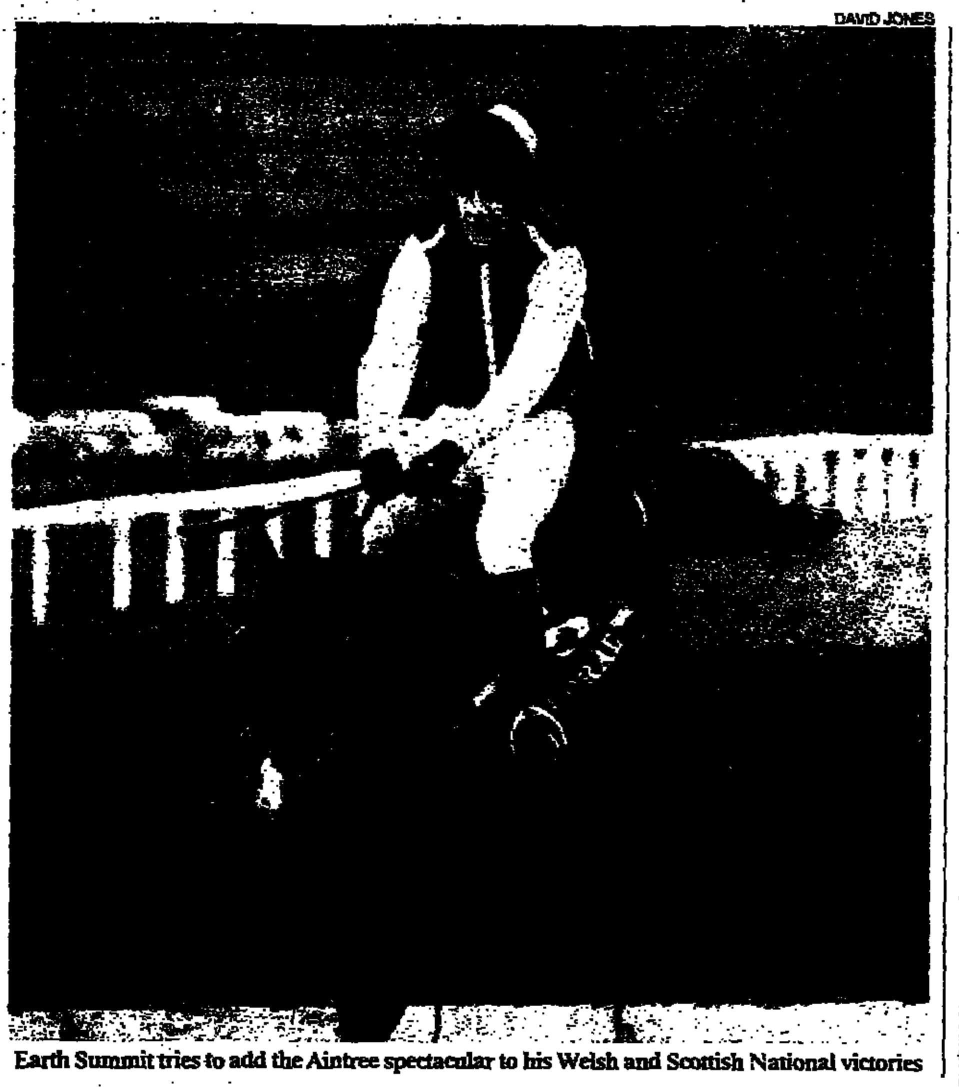
RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Top Jem (4.45 Nottingham)

Top Jem has never been out of the frame on her favoured soft ground. The Mick Ryan-trained runner is fit from the all-weather and should give a bold show with conditions in her favour.

Next best: Middle East (4.10 Nottingham)

DAVID JONES



Earth Summit tries to add the Aintree spectacular to his Welsh and Scottish National victories

SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

2.10 Sovereigns Parade. 2.40 Executive King. 3.15 Braes Of Mar. 3.50 Eulogy. 4.20 Dantes Cavalier. 4.55 True Steel.

Carl Evans: 4.55 True Steel.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.10 BOSS GROUP CUSTOMER LOYALTY NOVICES CHASE (£3,693: 2m) (5 runners)

1 4141 COLONEL BLAZER 42 (D,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 6-11-6 A P McCoy
2 5-51 SOVEREIGNS PARADE 68 (D,S) N Henderson 6-11-6 M A Fitzgerald
3 152P GIPSY GEOF 38 (D,S) G Hubbard 7-11-2 R Thornton
4 6220 HEAD FOR HEAVEN 34 (S) R Head 8-11-2 C Llewellyn
5 5383 TRIONA'S HOPE B E Caine 9-11-2 Gary Lyons

6-4 Sovereigns Parade, 15-8 Colonel Blazer, 3-1 Gipsy Geof, 10-1 Head For Heaven, 33-1 Triona's Hope.

2.40 MOUSETRAP CHALLENGE CUP NOVICES CHASE (£3,802: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1 /043 CLEVER REMARK 108 (G) J Old 9-11-0 C Llewellyn
2 /023 EXECUTIVE KING 10 (BF) G Hubbard 7-11-0 R Thornton
3 2-42 HEADWIND 21 (BF,S) J Gifford 7-11-0 P Hide
4 /P-3 LIMITED LIABILITY 18 (F) P R Webber 8-11-0 J A McCarthy
5 PF45 OUIKALL CROSSETT B E Caine 13-11-0 Gary Lyons
6 01U4 TAKE MY SIDE 41 (BF,D,S) M J Roberts 8-11-0 G Bradley

8-11 Headwind, 5-1 Limited Liability, 11-2 Executive King, 7-1 Take My Side, 8-1 Clever Remark, 100-1 Ouikall Crossett.

3.15 ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (Amateurs: £3,436: 3m 110yd) (11)

1 6-23 DARK HONEY 18 (C,D,G,S) L A Dace 13-12-10 D Alers-Hankey (7)
2 3242 ARCHIES OATS 18 (C,D,G) J Trice-Rolph 9-12-5 J Trice-Rolph (5)
3 F0-1 BRAES OF MAR 18 (G) N Henderson 8-12-5 Maj S Robinson (7)
4 6-24 CABBERY ROSE 15 P Southcombe 10-12-0 Miss Southcombe (7)
5 5F22 PINEWOOD LAD 9P (S) N J Pomfret 11-12-0 Maj J Hayward (7)
6 2034 SPUFFINGTON 21 (G,S) N J Pomfret 10-12-0 J Tucan (7)
7 P/U0 BLURRED VISION 18 A Sims 9-11-10 Capt R Inglesant (7)
8 /2/P ELY ISLAND 18 J Mullins 11-11-10 S Gnaany (7)
9 12-2 FLYING IMP 24P (D,F) Mrs J Galpin 7-11-10 S Sporborg (7)
10 3/11 MAGNETIC REEL 18P (D,S) H Laws 7-11-10 Maj D Ellwood (7)
11 1-4P CELTIC DAUGHTER 31P (D,F,G,S) H Lewis 9-11-5 B Logan (7)

5-2 Braes Of Mar, 7-2 Dark Honey, 4-1 Archies Oats, Magnetic Reel, 10-1 others.

3.50 ALANBROOKE MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,834: 3m 110yd) (6)

1 35F0 INCHCAILLOCH 14 (CD,F,G,S) J King 9-12-0 A P McCoy
2 -2P3 GREY SMOKE 52 (D,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 8-11-8 M A Fitzgerald
3 4U51 EULOGY 17 (CD,G,S) R Rowe 8-11-5 R Dunwoody
4 3P43 FOODBROKER STAR 53 (B,D,S) J Gifford 8-10-4 P Hide
5 /311 LETS RUMBLE 78 (D,S) R Alner 8-10-3 P Holley
6 3UP1 BALLYDOUGAN 19 (V,S) R Mathew 10-10-0 S Curran

7-4 Eulogy, 11-4 Lets Rumble, 4-1 Grey Smoke, 6-1 Inchcailloch, 7-1 Foodbroker Star, 25-1 Ballydougan.

4.20 ROYAL STAR AND GARTER HOME HANDICAP CHASE (£4,046: 2m) (6)

1 3028 SUBLIME FELLOW 12 (CD,G) N Henderson 8-12-0 M A Fitzgerald
2 4401 THUMBS UP 24 (D,F,G,S) G McCourt 12-11-10 Mr D Hamey (7)
3 4321 DANTES CAVALIER 24 (D,F,G,S) D Gandolfo 8-10-9 R Dunwoody
4 112F PARLIAMENTARIAN 32 (C,D,F,G,S) T Casey 9-10-4 T J Murphy
5 1342 DR ROCKET 43 (D,F,G,S) R Dickin 13-10-0 X Aizpuru (3)
6 -3F6 SLEAZEY 61 (D,F) J O'Neill 7-10-0 S Curran

2-1 Dantes Cavalier, 11-4 Sublime Fellow, 7-2 Thumbs Up, 6-1 Parliamentarian, 10-1 Sleazey, 12-1 Dr Rocket.

4.55 UBIQUE HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,646: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1 50-4 TUDOR FABLE 25 (D,G,S) C Sweeting 10-12-6 R Sweeting (7)
2 P222 WILLIE MAKEIT 10P (D,F,G) Mrs A Tory 9-12-6 M G Miller (7)
3 P222 MILL O'THE RAGS 24P (D,F,G) N King 9-12-2 N King (7)
4 P3PU RUSTIC GENT 6 (F,S) S Lewis 10-12-2 O McPhail (5)
5 25-4 REAL PROGRESS 46 (G,S) J McConochie 10-11-12 R Walley (3)
6 4-22 TRUE STEEL 17 (G,S) J Trice-Rolph 12-11-8 J Trice-Rolph (5)
7 0-2R MULTI LINE 9P Mrs P Townsley 8-11-3 P Townsley (7)

11-10 True Steel, 7-2 Mill O'The Rags, 9-2 Willie Makeit, 8-1 Real Progress, 14-1 Multi Line, 16-1 Rustic Gent, 25-1 Tudor Fable.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

SANDOWN PARK: Trainers: J Old, 14 winners from 46 runners, 29.2%; J King, 8 from 41, 19.5%; Miss H Knight, 8 from 41, 19.5%; R Rowe, 6 from 38, 15.8%; N Henderson, 14 from 95, 14.7%. Jockeys: D Elwood, 5 winners from 18 rides, 27.8%; R Dunwoody, 30 from 118, 25.4%; D Alers-Hankey, 3 from 12, 25.0%; J Trice-Rolph, 3 from 14, 21.4%; A P McCoy, 17 from 83, 20.5%.

NOTTINGHAM: Trainers: B Millman, 3 winners from 12 runners, 25.0%; D Nicholls, 5 from 23, 21.7%; N Babbage, 3 from 14, 21.4%; K Mahdi, 3 from 14, 21.4%; J Fanshawe, 8 from 41, 19.5%. Jockeys: Pat Eddery, 14 winners from 63 rides, 22.2%; K Fallon, 25 from 140, 17.9%; J Reid, 15 from 86, 17.4%; T Quinn, 14 from 83, 16.9%; R Mullen, 5 from 31, 16.1%.

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER

2.00 Blue Desert. 2.30 Still Waters. 3.05 Honest Borderer. 3.40 Sky Red. 4.10 Roffey Spinney. 4.45 Top Jem. 5.15 SMART BOY (nap).

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Saguaro. 3.40 Sky Red.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: 6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 WATNALL STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,163: 1m) (17)

1 (5) 2250 SHARP MONKEY 11 (V) Mrs N Macauley 9-5 P McCabe (3) 67
2 (6) 3-50 BLUE DESERT 14 (CD,G) C Bowring 9-2 K Fallon 70
3 (1) 4325 SLIM PRIOR 32 (V) K Burke 9-2 D Sweeney (3) 45
4 (11) -005 ALWAYS LUCKY 11 J Pearce 9-1 A Polli (5) 72
5 (15) 000- CAROUSE 150 M Channon 8-12 A Mackay 75
6 (13) -064 LANDRUM 34 H Collingridge 8-12 M Rimmer 61
7 (14) 500- OPPORTUNE 150 C A Smith 8-12 C Rutter 52
8 (7) 6-00 CAPTIVATING 11 R Hannon 8-7 Dane O'Neill 73
9 (17) 00- CRYSTAL WATERS 174 G Calvert 8-7 D Meredith (7) 41
10 (10) -340 ELLA FALLS 57 Mrs J Craze 8-7 T Williams 70
11 (8) GOLDLINER GOSSIP Miss M Rowland 8-7 A Culhane –
12 (12) 0-00 IVORY GIRL 56 K Ivory 8-7 R Lappin –
13 (15) 0- MISS ALL ALONE 357 J Glover 8-7 S D Williams –
14 (9) 0 NOUVEAU CHEVAL 32 J Jenkins 8-7 F Lynch –
15 (2) 00 TIME FOR LAGER 32 J Wharton 8-7 A McCarthy (5) –
16 (16) -005 TRAKELOR 32 (V) P Hollinshead 8-7 J Bramhill 38
17 (4) TUFTY STAR J Pearce 8-7 G Bardwell –

3-1 Captivating, 7-2 Blue Desert, 7-1 Sharp Monkey, Always Lucky, 10-1 others.

2.30 BASSINGFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (Div I: £3,233: 1m) (11)

1 (1) 5-6 GRAND OVATION 38 D Cosgrove 4-9-12 M Rimmer 50
2 (6) REVOLUTION R Williams 4-9-12 R Cochrane –
3 (5) 2- SAGUARO 169 J Gosden 4-9-12 Pat Eddery 81
4 (4) 00- STRILLO 309 N Babbage 4-9-12 W Ryan 57
5 (9) 00- ZAALEFF 169 K Mahdi 6-9-12 M Baird (3) –
6 (10) 60- FUWALA 283 T Easterby 4-9-7 K Fallon 42
7 (11) 00 SERRATE 17 D Shaw 4-9-7 S D Williams –
8 (7) 2- THE WILD WIDOW 169 J Eustace 4-9-7 J Tate 74
9 (8) 4- ALCAYDE 165 J Dunlop 3-8-9 T Quinn 66
10 (3) 0- ELBARREE 144 M Jones 3-8-9 P Robinson 40
11 (2) 0- STILL WATERS 154 R Charlton 3-8-9 T Sprake 50

7-4 Saguaro, 2-1 The Wild Widow, 7-2 Alcayde, 10-1 Still Waters, 12-1 others.

3.05 BASSINGFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (Div II: £3,233: 1m) (11)

1 (15) 0- BE VALIANT 316 J Fanshawe 4-9-13 W R Swinburn –
2 (3) 000- CLASSIC COLOURS 113J S Kettlewell 5-9-12 V Slattery –
3 (8) 0- JUNCTION CITY 123J I Balding 4-9-12 S Whitworth –
4 (9) MICHANDRA BOY 423 (V) M Wane 5-9-12 Martin Dwyer –
5 (2) 0/ MITWITTY 545 R Hodges 4-9-12 M Roberts –
6 (5) AMEBIKA S Woods 4-9-7 N Day –
7 (7) SHONA P Harris 4-9-7 Dane O'Neill –
8 (11) 80- ERIERY MEC 126 H Collingridge 3-8-9 M Rimmer 55
9 (1) 54- HONEST BORDERER 167 J Dunlop 3-8-9 T Quinn 80
10 (6) MARK TIME M Tompkins 3-8-9 D Biggs –
11 (4) TRUEWIN B Hanbury 3-8-9 J Stack –

6-4 Honest Borderer, 9-2 Junction City, 7-1 Shona, 8-1 Be Valiant, 10-1 others.

3.40 NEW BASFORD HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,447: 6f) (20)

1 (14) 6-22 TREBLE TERM 42 P Makin 9-7 W R Swinburn 82
2 (9) 556- SMART PRINCE 221 J J Quinn 9-7 J Lowe 71
3 (7) 830- MOHAWK 157 J Dunlop 9-6 T Quinn 88
4 (19) 400- SKY RED 155 M Bell 9-5 R Mullen (5) 64
5 (12) 345- SALIGO 197 H Morrison 9-5 C Rutter 64
6 (15) 4020 RUSSIAN ROMEO 11 (D,G) B McMahon 9-3 L Newton 71
7 (4) 230- SWOOSH 302 J Glover 9-3 S D Williams 61
8 (6) 545- ARBENIG 108 (D) B Palling 9-1 T Sprake 75
9 (5) 600- DAYNABEE 190 (C,D,F,G,S) M Tinkler 9-1 Kim Tinkler 78
10 (3) 500- ZEPPO 192 B McMahon 9-0 R Cochrane 61
11 (20) 3306 SKY MOUNTAIN 17 S Bowring 8-12 K Fallon 72
12 (2) 500- SHARP FELLOW 134 I Balding 8-11 S Whitworth 61
13 (13) 506- JEWEL 157 R Hannon 8-11 Dane O'Neill 62
14 (18) 0-23 KUSTOM KIT KATE 11 S Bowring 8-10 C Teague (3) 77
15 (16) 000- GLAMORGAN 152 C Dwyer 8-9 F Lynch 61
16 (12) -000 LIMETSONG 20 (G) D Chapman 8-7 A Culhane 71
17 (1) 000- NOBLE PATRIOT 164 R Hollinshead 8-5 A McCarthy (5) 65
18 (1) 6135 PINUP 42 (D) C Dwyer 8-0 D R McCabe 64
19 (17) 000- PENNY WHISTLE 194 T Easterby 7-12 F Norton 75
20 (5) 0-66 BLAZING BILLY 27 C Dwyer 7-10 M Varley 73

5-1 Mohawk, 7-1 Saligo, 8-1 Treble Term, Russian Romeo, 9-1 others.

4.10 BAGTHORPE HANDICAP (£3,500: 6f) (20)

1 (5) 650- LYTTONS MISTAKE 111 (G) P Hedger 5-10-0 M Roberts 87
2 (16) 100- BEAU VENTURE 119 (D,F,G,S) B Palling 10-10-0 T Sprake 82
3 (19) 000- PLEADING 144 (D,F,S) W Muir 5-10-0 K Fallon 75
4 (15) 000- IVORY DAWN 190 (D,G) K Ivory 4-9-10 A McCarthy (5) 71
5 (2) 411- MIDDLE EAST 127 (G,CD,F,S) T Barron 5-9-5 T Quinn 75
6 (14) 3300 ROFFEY SPINNEY 54 (D) R Hannon 4-9-9 Dane O'Neill 76
7 (12) 000- RUM LAD 167 (D,F,S) J J Quinn 4-9-8 J Lowe 77
8 (4) 3110 SUE ME 32 (D,S) D Nicholls 6-9-6 Alex Greaves 66
9 (13) 050- AWASSI 150 K Mahdi 5-9-5 R Cochrane 74
10 (11) 000- POLAR ECLIPSE 150 (S) B Meehan 5-9-4 M Tebbutt 68
11 (3) 321- BOLD FRONTIER 388 (B) K Ivory 6-9-4 Martin Dwyer 70
12 (2) 00-0 ERUPT 67 (D,S) M Bell 5-9-2 P Robinson 74
13 (17) 6635 MIKE'S DOUBLE 8 (G) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-2 J Reid 62
14 (6) 00-0 RUNS IN THE FAMILY 14 (B,D,S) G McCourt 6-9-2 P [illegible] (7) 55
15 (8) 454- GOLD EDGE 168 (D,F) Emma Lavelle 4-9-1 Kim Tinkler 76
16 (7) 005- SAILORMAITE 136 (G,S) S Bowring 7-9-1 S Webster 69
17 (20) 1422 ELTON LEDGER 8 (D,F) Mrs N Macauley 9-9-0 P McCabe (3) 72
18 (7) 400- OCKER 130 M Tompkins 4-8-11 D Biggs 79
19 (10) 343- KING UNO 153 (V,D,G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-11 O Pears 83
20 (18) 05-6 STEPHENSONS ROCKET 29 R Fahey 7-8-6 R Winston (5) 69

6-1 Middle East, 7-1 King Uno, 8-1 Sue Me, Lyttons Mistake, 10-1 others.

4.45 KIMBERLEY HANDICAP (£3,785: 1m 2f) (13)

1 (12) 145- VOLA VIA 241 (D,F,S) I Balding 5-9-12 Leanne Masterton (7) 53
2 (9) 515- LARGESSE 138 (G,S) John Berry 4-9-12 K Fallon 72
3 (13) 044- ZOOM UP 158 (G) M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-9 S Drowne 62
4 (11) 540- SOFYAAN 154 (S) Lady Herries 5-9-9 R Cochrane 65
5 (3) -006 TOP JEM 43 (D,F,S) M Ryan 4-9-8 P McCabe (3) 82
6 (6) 00- FILMORE WEST 157 (D,F) D Arbuthnot 5-9-2 T Quinn 77
7 (15) 230- SECRET BALLOT 143 (CD,S) F Murphy 4-8-6 W R Swinburn 92
8 (5) 0141 TOUGH LEADER 14 (F) B Hanbury 4-8-7 W Ryan 37
9 (11) 114- DESERT FIGHTER 302 (D,G) Mrs M Reveley 7-8-3 A Culhane 82
10 (8) 000- CONTENTMENT 111 (D,G) S Dow 4-8-1 M Roberts 73
11 (2) 420- CARMARTHEN BAY 545 (BF) B Llewellyn 5-8-5 G Duffield –
12 (7) 405- PEPPERS 193 K Bone 5-8-5 Dane O'Neill 37
13 (4) 0-00 GOLDEN ACE 64 (G,S) R Spicer 5-7-10 J Bramhill 30

9-2 Sofyaan, 5-1 Tough Leader, 6-1 Desert Fighter, Peppers, 7-1 others.

5.15 SHIPLEY HANDICAP (£3,074: 1m 6f) (14)

1 (12) 016- ARCADY 172 (D,F) J L Harris 5-10-0 R Mullen (5) 70
2 (6) -615 SMART BOY 34 (BF,F) P Cole 4-9-13 David O'Neill (7) 60
3 (3) 1200 DIVINITY 17 (V) S Woods 4-9-8 N Day 53
4 (2) 040- SHILLING 20J Miss H Knight 4-9-6 J Reid 65
5 (13) -300 REGGIE BUCK 30 J L Harris 4-9-8 R French 63
6 (9) 603/ SISTER KIT 624 B Palling 5-9-7 T Sprake –
7 (16) 200- ALPINE PANTHER 25J Mrs M Reveley 5-9-7 A Culhane 80
8 (7) 000- PERTEMPS MISSION 253 J Pearce 4-9-4 G Bardwell 53
9 (14) 50-0 LAGUNA BAY 26J (F) G McCourt 4-9-2 R Hughes 65
10 (11) 010- DAUPHIN 161 (F,G,S) W Musson 5-9-1 D R McCabe 78
11 (10) 050- KEEPSAKE 151 (F) M Usher 4-8-12 R Street 66
12 (4) 500- PRIMERO 29J (B) A Barrow 4-6-7 S Whitworth –
13 (9) 000- MAREMMA 161 (S) Emma Lavelle 4-8-3 Kim Tinkler 73
14 (1) -611 GROVEFAIR LAD 22 S Bowring 4-7-10 A McCarthy (5) 60

7-2 Alpine Panther, 6-1 Grovefair Lad, 7-1 Smart Boy, 8-1 Arcady, Shilling, Keepsake, 10-1 Dauphin, 12-1 others.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Hamilton Park

Going: heavy (soft in places)

2.20 (5f 4yd) 1, Irish Cream (A McCarthy, 16-1); 2, Hanibel Lady (5-1); 3, Bayard Lady (7-1). Swaltham 5-2 fav. 9 ran. 1¼l, 2½l. P Evans. Tote: £20.30; £3.30, £1.10, £3.10. DF: £54.30. Trio: £80.20. CSF: £92.61.

2.50 (6f 5yd) 1, Somdar (O Pears, 7-2); 2, Barrelbio (100-30 fav); 3, Mamma's Boy (11-2). 8 ran. 1½l, 3½l. J Eyre. Tote: £4.20; £1.40, £2.30, £1.60. DF: £7.70. CSF: £13.46. Tricast: £54.62.

3.20 (1m 1f 36yd) 1, Zorba (N Kennedy, 2-1 fav); 2, Nobby Barnes (12-1); 3, Sweet Note (33-1). 9 ran. ½l, 3l. J Hetherton. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £1.30, £4.40. DF: £6.60. Trio: £53.50. CSF: £23.81.

3.50 (1m 65yd) 1, Top Floor (Kim Tinkler, 5-1); 2, Ruby Bear (33-1); 3, Basic Style (5-1). One To Go (4th) 2-1 fav. 6 ran. Nk, 2l. N Tinkler. Tote: £6.00; £2.50, £6.40. DF: £33.40. CSF: £95.39. No bid.

4.20 (1m 3f 16yd) 1, Night City (D Sweeney, 12-1); 2, Mr Fortywinks (4-1 fav); 3, The Butterwick Kid (11-2); 4, Toshiba Talk (11-2). 16 ran. 1¼l, 1½l. K Burke. Tote: £15.30; £3.20, £1.90, £1.90, £1.60. DF: £30.80. Trio: £76.60. CSF: £51.11. Tricast: £278.69.

4.50 (1m 4f 17yd) 1, Tycoon Tina (A McCarthy, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Classical Dance (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Burlesque (25-1). 11 ran. ¾l, 8l. W Brisbourne. Tote: £6.90; £2.00, £2.90, £4.50. DF: £14.10. Trio: £80.00. CSF: £20.69. Tricast: £404.23.

Jackpot: £30,239.10 (0.1 winning tickets. Pool of £38,331.29 carried forward to Newcastle today).

Placepot: £179.80. Quadpot: £25.00.

Hexham

Going: good

2.00 (2m hdle) 1, Orange Imp (F Leahy, 20-1); 2, The Snow Burn (16-1); 3, Queens Brigade (10-1). Skillwise 11-8 fav. 20 ran. NR: Judicious Charlie. Sh hd, 9l. J Fitzgerald. Tote: £33.10; £9.50, £5.40, £2.00. DF: £126.70. CSF: £274.09. Trio: £241.00.

2.30 (2m 1f ch) 1, Torus Spa (Mr D McPhail, 6-1); 2, Karenastino (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Heavenly Citizen (20-1). Allerbank 9-2 jt-fav. 15 ran. NR: Abbey Lamp. 3½l, 3l. F Murphy. Tote: £5.40; £2.20, £1.90, £7.30. DF: £14.80. Trio: £109.30. CSF: £27.98. Tricast: £469.44.

3.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Cinnamon Stick (S Taylor, 10-1); 2, Water Font (6-1); 3, Catherine's Choice (10-1); 4, Roman Outlaw (6-1). Boundtohonour 4-1 fav. 20 ran. NR: Boyzontoowa. ½l, 4l. M Sowersby. Tote: £15.80; £3.00, £1.70, £2.00, £1.50. DF: £51.90. Trio: £168.60. CSF: £76.03. Tricast: £605.74.

3.30 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Ben Cruachan (L Wyer, 6-1); 2, Bourbon Dynasty (9-2); 3, Lord Rullah (20-1). Itsaletsotalis 2-1 fav. 8 ran. 5l, 2½l. J Jefferson. Tote: £7.20; £1.80, £1.60, £3.60. DF: £8.10. CSF: £28.13. Tricast: £427.68.

4.00 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Royal Crimson (R Garritty, 5-1); 2, Six Clerks (9-1); 3, Peter Merchant (33-1). Jack Yeats (4th) 3-1 fav. 14 ran. NR: Ciceronic, Uk Hygiene. 1¼l, 4l. M Hammond. Tote: £6.80; £2.60, £2.40, £7.20. DF: £26.00. CSF: £46.68. Trio: £339.00.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, Contrafire (I Jardine, 10-1); 2, Rallegio (5-1); 3, Eternal City (4-1 jt-fav). Fassan 4-1 jt-fav. 8 ran. NR: Pentland Squire. 3½l, 5l. A Whillans. Tote: £7.50; £2.50, £2.00, £1.40. DF: £18.70. Trio: £18.90. CSF: £49.09. Tricast: £193.34.

5.00 (2m flat) 1, Scotmail Lad (I Harvey, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Thorlerdykes Lass (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Valley Of Hope (10-1). 20 ran. NR: Magnum. 7l, 6l. G Moore. Tote: £5.90; £3.00, £2.20, £2.70. DF: £27.60. Trio: £63.60. CSF: £22.01.

Placepot: £6,522.90. Quadpot: £47.70.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard

2.10 (5f) 1, Kastaway (C Lowther, 3-1); 2, Oh I Say (2-1 fav); 3, Charles Spencelayh (12-1). 7 ran. 1¾l, 7l. J Berry. Tote: £4.40; £2.00, £1.40. DF: £9.30. CSF: £9.25.

2.40 (1m 2f) 1, Signs And Wonders (K Fallon, 9-2); 2, Mogin (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Bakers Daughter (15-2). Harlequin Walk 7-2 jt-fav. 7 ran. 2½l, 3½l. C Cyzer. Tote: £6.00; £3.00, £2.30. DF: £19.40. CSF: £20.15.

3.10 (1m) 1, Distinctive Dance (J Reid, 1-7 fav); 2, Crystal Crazo (16-1); 3, Premier Baron (16-1). 4 ran. 18l, 2½l. Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £1.10. DF: £3.30. CSF: £3.47.

3.40 (1m) 1, Mister Tricky (N Day, 7-2); 2, Roger Ross (11-2); 3, Chamell (7-2). Pearl Queen 3-1 fav. 7 ran. 1¾l, 2½l. P Mitchell. Tote: £5.10; £2.10, £3.30. DF: £9.10. CSF: £23.25.

4.10 (7f) 1, Digpast (G Bardwell, 8-1); 2, Dandy Regent (7-2); 3, The Wyandotte Inn (16-1). Tom Tom 11-4 fav. 11 ran. 1½l, 4l. J Bridger. Tote: £10.50; £1.60, £1.60, £5.30. DF: £54.00. Trio: £156.20. CSF: £37.44. Takhlid finished 2nd but after a stewards' inquiry was disqualified.

4.40 (6f) 1, Durable George (A Daly, 16-1); 2, Mystical (9-2); 3, Goodbye Gatemen (9-2). 8 ran. ¾l, hd. J Bridger. Tote: £23.70; £10.10, £1.20, £1.90. DF: £34.70. CSF: £93.02. Tricast: £358.28.

Placepot: £541.50. Quadpot: £51.20.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

I was East on the hand below, from the 1998 Malta Bridge Festival, playing with Tom Townsend.

Dealer East — Game all — Matchpointed pairs

North: ♠J 6 3 ♥8 7 ♦Q J 4 ♣J 9 7 6 3
West: ♠2 ♥K 10 6 5 ♦10 8 6 ♣A K 10 5 4
East: ♠Q 7 ♥Q 9 4 ♦A K 7 5 3 ♣Q 8 2
South: ♠A K 10 9 8 5 4 ♥A J 3 2 ♦9 2 ♣—

S	W	N	E
			1 NT (12-14)
4 S	Double	All Pass	

Contract: Four Spades Doubled, by South. Lead: king of clubs

I suppose it is sound to double South's overcall of Four Spades with the West hand, but it always seems to work out that dummy goes down with a suitable two-count. Townsend led the king of clubs. Declarer ruffed and led ace and a low heart. I took the trick with the nine. How should I defend?

I thought that it was possible my partner had a doubleton diamond, and if we didn't take our ruff now it would disappear, as declarer would draw trumps after taking one heart ruff. So I played the king of diamonds. Declarer correctly dropped the nine under that, so when my partner played the six it was possible that he had started with the six and two. I continued with a second diamond, and now it was all over — whatever I did, declarer could draw two rounds of trumps, ruff a heart and throw one on the queen of diamonds.

Do you see the winning defence? After cashing a diamond I should have returned a heart. Now declarer cannot ruff a fourth heart, as I am overruffing, and even if he establishes a diamond he has no entry to cash it. As Townsend patiently explained to me, if declarer had ♠A K x x x x x ♥A x x ♦10 x x ♣ — he would have drawn trumps immediately and started on diamonds himself. Thus he was marked with a 7-4-2-0 shape, which was also deducible from the fact that Townsend had played the six then the five on the first two rounds of hearts — so difficult to spot those quiet peters, don't you find?

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Mixed event

An interesting tournament has been played in Monaco in which most of the world's top grandmasters (Garry Kasparov being the exception) have contested a series of rapid play and blindfold games.

Today's games show that grandmaster Alexei Shirov was intent on pursuing the excellent form which he demonstrated in the elite competition at Linares earlier this month. To inflict defeat on both Viswanathan Anand and Anatoly Karpov, respectively challenger and defender in the Fide (world chess federation) title match from January is an extraordinary achievement.

White: Alexei Shirov
Black: Viswanathan Anand
Monte Carlo rapidplay
March 1998

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	Nc6
6	Bg5	e6
7	Qd2	Be7
8	0-0-0	Nxd4
9	Qxd4	0-0
10	f4	Qa5
11	Kb1	Rd8
12	h4	Bd7
13	Bd3	h6
14	e5	dxe5
15	fxe5	Bc6
16	Qe3	Rxd3
17	Rxd3	hxg5
18	hxg5	Bxg2
19	gxf6	Bxh1
20	Qg1	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



White: Anatoly Karpov
Black: Alexei Shirov
Monte Carlo rapidplay
March 1998

King's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	g6
3	Nf3	Bg7
4	g3	0-0
5	Bg2	d6
6	0-0	Nc6
7	Nc3	a6
8	Re1	Rb8
9	Rb1	Re8
10	d5	Na5
11	Nd2	c5
12	a3	Ng4
13	Qc2	Ne5
14	b3	b5
15	h3	bxc4
16	bxc4	Rxb1
17	Ncxb1	Qb6
18	Nc3	Bf5
19	e4	Bd7
20	Nd1	Rb8
21	f4	Ba4
22	Qxa4	Nd3
23	Nf3	Nxe1
24	Nxe1	Qb1
25	Qxa5	Qxc1
26	Bf3	Bd4+
27	Kh2	Rb3
28	h4	Rxa3
29	Qd8+	Kg7
30	e5	Qd2+
31	Ng2	Rxf3
32	Qxe7	dxe5
33	h5	Qxd1

White resigns

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FLEHMEN
a. Sputum
b. A grimace
c. Blossom

RUNAGATES
a. Vagabonds
b. Starting stalls
c. Green beans

CALANDRIA
a. Ornamental lighting
b. A milk evaporator
c. Roman epochs

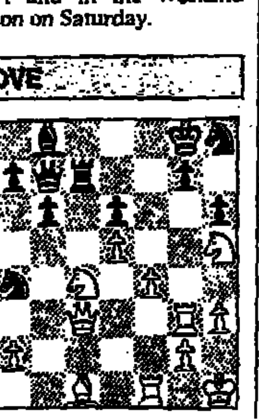
SHAMISEN
a. An erotic garment
b. Heavy duty varnish
c. A musical instrument

Answers on page 50

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game that Alekhine played in Portsmouth in 1923. Alexander Alekhine was one of the greatest tactical geniuses who ever lived. Can you see the fantastic winning combination that he spotted here?



Solution on page 50

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

2.20 Speedy James. 2.50 Kris Green. 3.25 Depreciate. 4.00 Pentlands Flyer. 4.30 Ego Night. 5.05 Mondragon.

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.25 DEPRECIATE.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.30 EGO NIGHT (nap).

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.20 EBF MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,048: 5f) (7 runners)

101 (7) 0 AA-YOUKNOWNOTHING 5 (Bodlin Stud Ltd) M W Easterby 9-0 T Lucas 50
102 (6) GLASTONBURY (P Savill) M Channon 9-0 K Darley –
103 (5) HAYSTACKS (Mr & Mrs A Milligan) D Moffatt 9-0 Darren Moffatt (3) –
104 (2) SPEEDY JAMES (Lucayan Stud) J Berry 9-0 G Carter –
105 (3) ASHOVER AMBER (T Coy) T Barron 8-9 J Fortune –
106 (4) 6 CALICO LADY 5 (Drakemyre Racing) W Kemp 8-9 J Quinn 79
107 (1) SPENDTHEPROC-EDE'S (Ede's (UK) Ltd) W G M Turner 8-9 C Lowther (3) –

BETTING: 2-1 Glastonbury, 5-2 Speedy James, 6-1 Ashover Amber, 7-1 Spendtheproc-Ede's, 8-1 others.

1997: MIQUELON 9-0 K Darley (5-2 fav) R Hollinshead 6 ran

2.50 DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE HURDLE (£2,369: 2m 4f) (14 runners)

201 22510 JOE BUZZ 17 (G) (J Buzzeo) F Murphy 6-11-7 P Carberry 101
202 16 PALADUS 115 (D,F) (M Gleeson) G M Moore 6-11-7 N Bentley –
203 304 FAIR FARM LAD 24 (H Copley) J Jefferson 6-11-0 L Wyer 80
204 3-55 GALESHAN 10 (J Hales) G Richards 6-11-0 B Harding 111
205 3P330 GENERAL ASSEMBLY 14 (Craftsmen) G Margarson 6-11-0 M Richards 119
206 6222453 J J BABOO 10 (V) (R Ropen) M Hammond 5-11-0 R Garritty 108
207 0000 LUCKY MOVE 10 (J Wilson) S Kettlewell 5-11-0 S Taylor (3) 80
208 0- RISING MILL 379 (Miss R Brewis) Miss R Brewis 7-11-0 R McGrath (3) –
209 05 SCOTMAIL BOY 21 (G Brown & B Watson) J Howard Johnson 5-11-0 A Thornton 61
210 6032 SETTING SUN 10 (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 5-11-0 A S Smith 116
211 62-340 TIME WARRIOR 31 (Mrs S Moore) G M Moore 7-11-0 J Callaghan 100
212 6-6540 WHAT A TALE 38 (BF) (Jemm Partnership) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0 P Niven 105
213 41 KRIS GREEN 38 (CD,G) (F Carr) L Lungo 4-10-12 R Supple 96
214 0-FF PEREX 17P (J W Watson) J Charlton 7-10-9 B Storey –

BETTING: 7-2 Kris Green, 5-1 Joe Buzz, 6-1 Setting Sun, What A Tale, 7-1 Galeshan, 8-1 J J Baboo, 10-1 General Assembly, Time Warrior, 14-1 others.

1997: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS: Joe Buzz 50l 10th of 16 to Montroe in novice handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, soft). General Assembly 40l 18th of 30 to French Ballerina in novice hurdle grade I at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft). Setting Sun 3½l 2nd of 20 to Wynyard Knight in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good) with J J Baboo (levels) 9½l 3rd. Galeshan (levels) 12l 5th and Lucky Move (levels) 59l 18th. Kris Green beat Second Fiddle 1½l in 18-runner novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good) with What A Tale (9lb better off) 13l 7th and Scotmail Boy (9lb better off) 61l 11th.

JOE BUZZ has less to do than in a hot race at Sandown last time

3.25 49'S SPRINT HANDICAP [SHOWCASE RACE] (£7,100: 5f) (13)

301 (7) 005000- LAGO DI VARANO 147 (B,CD,F,G,S) (PBT Group) R Whitaker 6-10-0 D McKeown 79
302 (13) 050000- TREASURE TOUCH 147 (D,F,S) (N Honeyman) D Nicholls 4-10-0 A Nicholls (7) 66
303 (11) 10000-5 WESTCOURT MAGIC 4 (G,S) (Mrs Hodgson) M W Easterby 5-9-13 L Charnock 85
304 (9) 1112-26 STATE OF CAUTION 5 (V) (J Freewell) D Shaw 5-9-13 J Fanning 71
305 (6) 004000- JENNELLE 242 (D,F,S) (Mrs J Conwell) C Dwyer 4-9-11 D Holland 81
306 (5) 0-20240 GADGE 5 (C,F,G,S) (J Wilcox) A Bailey 7-9-8 D Wright 81
307 (3) 321300- SALLY GREEN 162 (D,S) (K Stenborg) C Wall 4-9-7 J Weaver 74
308 (1) 100040- JUST BOB 144 (CD,F,G,S) (J Fotherby) S Kettlewell 9-9-6 P Fredericks (7) 76
309 (4) 412500- SWINO 130 (D,F) (Sanderton Transport Ltd) P Evans 4-9-1 J F Egan 81
310 (2) 00-4114 DEPRECIATE 5 (D,G) (I Armitage) T Barron 5-9-0 K Darley 91
311 (8) 130020- JACKERIN 217 (D,F,G) (J Young) B Rothwell 3-8-10 M Fenton 76
312 (12) 300013- MUNGO PARK 144 (BF,CD,F) (Mrs H Carr) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-9 J Fortune 90
313 (13) 630400- AMRON 194 (CD,F,G,S) (R Peebles) J Berry 11-8-6 P Fessey (3) 81

BETTING: 7-2 Depreciate, 5-1 State Of Caution, 6-1 Mungo Park, 7-1 Westcourt Magic, 10-1 Gadge, Treasure Touch, 12-1 Sally Green, 14-1 Amron, Just Bob, Lago Di Varano, 16-1 others.

1997: AMRON 10-9-7 N Carlisle (10-1) J Berry 14 ran

FORM FOCUS: Treasure Touch 9¼l 18th of 25 to Promo Lara in Redcar handicap (6f, good) with Lago Di Varano (levels) 11l 21st. Westcourt Magic 2¾l 5th of 22 to Always Alight in Doncaster handicap (6f, good). Depreciate 2¼l 4th of 18 to Proud Native in Doncaster handicap (5f, good) with State Of Caution (2lb worse) 2¾l 6th and Gadge (3lb worse) 3¾l 7th. Jackerin 10l 14th of 16 to Folklore in Ripon handicap (5f, good to firm). Mungo Park 1¼l 2nd of 22 to Southern Dominion in Doncaster handicap (5f, good) with Swino (levels) 1¾l 5th and Just Bob (2lb better) 4l 9th. Amron 6¾l 15th of 25 to Just Bob (11lb worse) in Ayr handicap (5f, good to soft).

WESTCOURT MAGIC can step up on a promising seasonal debut

4.00 SUNDERLAND SHEET HANDICAP CHASE (£2,918: 3m) (13 runners)

401 1/P2P-5 STONEY BURKE 17 (G) (Miss E Noble) Miss L Russell 9-11-10 A Thornton –
402 2-111UP PENTLANDS FLYER 73 (F,G) (Mrs M Bird) J Howard Johnson 7-11-10 A S Smith 120
403 2-212PU GEMS LAD 73 (F,G) (Miss J Wood) Mrs S Smith 11-11-7 R Guest 104
404 /1/PP5P SHINING FOUNTAIN 17 (D,G,S) (D Forster) D M Forster 9-11-5 R McGrath (3) –
405 1362/34 THE BUD CLUB 90 (B,BF,D,F,G) (Avon) Miss J A Camacho 10-11-4 P Niven 108
406 34-3263 SEEKING GOLD 14 (F,G) (Gairy) J Barclay 9-11-0 B Storey 112
407 0/U2221 CALLERNOY 20 (S) (Exors late R Lamb) D Lamb 8-10-9 J Burke 121
408 FF0-P63 MARCHWOOD 8 (D,G,S) (N Chamberlain) N Chamberlain 11-10-8 S Taylor (3) –
409 2124413 MAYBE O'GRADY 29 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs A Bell) W Cunningham 9-10-8 N Smith 116
410 P60233U APACHE RAIDER 12 (B) (Mrs E Kettlewell) F Murphy 6-10-3 P Carberry 112
411 445550F MAGIC BLOOM 41 (D,F,G) (F Nelson) J Jefferson 12-10-2 L Wyer 109
412 352-44U TICO GOLD 21 (S) (Mrs J Hewitt) Mrs J Brown 10-10-2 B Harding 104
413 52FP-13 NOOSA SOUND 60 (BF,G) (A Duncan) L Lungo 8-10-2 R Supple 108

BETTING: 5-1 Callernoy, 6-1 Pentlands Flyer, Noosa Sound, 7-1 Gems Lad, Maybe O'Grady, 8-1 others.

1997: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS: Seeking Gold 29l 3rd of 5 to Nocatchim in handicap chase at Sedgefield (2m 5f, good). Callernoy beat Flat Top a distance in 11-runner handicap chase at Catterick (3m 1f, soft) with Apache Raider (10lb better off) a distance 3rd. Tico Gold, on penultimate start, 20l 4th of 13 to Camptosaurus in handicap chase at Musselburgh (3m, good to firm) with Magic Bloom (3lb better) 5th. Noosa Sound 15l 3rd of 10 to The Toiseach in handicap chase at Doncaster (3m, good) with Maybe O'Grady (7lb worse) 22l 4th.

CALLERNOY gained a deserved win last time and can improve again

4.30 HOLYSTONE MAIDEN STAKES (£3,550: 7f) (14 runners)

501 (8) 042-0 KHALIK 4 (B) (A Griffin) Mrs L Stubbs 4-9-12 D Harrison 70
502 (14) 32/5- INFLATION 326 (BF) (J Rowles) J Leigh 4-9-7 Dean McKeown 52
503 (2) 2-2 EGO NIGHT 8 (BF) (L Caucci) M Bell 3-8-11 J Weaver 69
504 (9) 0- GINNER MORRIS 194 (Mrs M Rogers) C Booth 3-8-11 J Fortune –
505 (13) 230260- HAPPY DAYS 168 (J Carroll) D Moffatt 3-8-11 Darren Moffatt (3) 61
506 (11) 0440- HOWIES CHOICE 175 (R Howe) M Brittain 3-8-11 G Carter 72
507 (7) 36- KING OF THE RIVER 177 (P Savill) P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-11 K Darley 80
508 (5) PRINCIPLED (B) (M Paver) M Brittain 3-8-11 R Farmer (7) –
509 (1) THE PEDALER ROCHE (Ten For Sport Partnership) R Craggs 3-8-11 L Charnock –
510 (6) 060000- WEE CHRISTY 147 (Christy Golfing Society) W McKeown 3-8-11 J Fanning 45
511 (10) WHITE HEART (M al-Maktoum) M Johnston 3-8-11 D Holland –
512 (12) ANOTHER LAURA (Miss S Blain) W McKeown 3-8-6 J Carroll –
513 (3) BORDER STARLETTE (D Young) Mrs M Reveley 3-8-6 Dale Gibson –
514 (4) 500300- NGAERE PRINCESS 145 (Drakemyre Racing) W Kemp 3-8-6 J Quinn 50

BETTING: 2-1 King Of The River, 7-2 White Heart, 5-1 Ego Night, 8-1 Khalik, 10-1 Happy Days, 14-1 others.

1997: MAFTOOL 3-8-9 L Dettori (2-5 fav) J Gosden 7 ran

FORM FOCUS: Ego Night neck 2nd of 9 to Little Brave in maiden stakes at Southwell (1m, fibresand). Happy Days 7¾l 8th of 12 to Daybreak in handicap at Ayr (6f, soft). King Of The River 8½l 6th of 11 to Florazi in maiden stakes at Leicester (7f 9yd, good to firm).

KING OF THE RIVER is taken to edge out Ego Night

5.05 ST MODWEN HANDICAP (£2,885: 2m 19yd) (15 runners)

601 (3) 4/0/11- OUTSET 32J (D,F,S) (M Kilner) M Hammond 8-10-0 J Carroll 72
602 (3) 201/00- GREAT EASEBY 14J (D,F) (D Batey) W Storey 8-9-7 J Fanning 83
603 (6) 4/5-265 MONDRAGON 29J (D,F,G) (D Young) Mrs M Reveley 8-9-7 K Darley 82
604 (7) 5/0000/ FUTURE'S TRADER 28J (Mrs S Long) M Hammond 5-8-11 C Lowther (3) –
605 (1) 362053- ARISAIG 189 (Mrs J MacPherson) P Calver 4-8-11 J Fortune 68
606 (15) 232412- CHARITY CRUSADER 164J (F,G) (M Reveley Racing) Mrs M Reveley 7-8-9 D Gibson 57
607 (11) 352322- HIGHFIELD FIZZ 162 (F,S) (Mrs P T-Garthwaite) C Fairhurst 6-8-6 P Fessey (3) 70
608 (12) 0300-04 HEVER GOLF CHARMER 14 (Action Racing Club Ltd) B Rothwell 4-8-1 M Fenton 70
609 (8) 03200-2 DULAS BAY 12J (Early Morning Breakfast Syndicate) M W Easterby 4-8-0 J Quinn 76
610 (5) 5005-62 OUR MAIN MAN 14 (B,F) (R Whitaker) R Whitaker 8-7-12 Darren Moffatt (3) 70
611 (9) 0044/0/ DALLY BOY 14J (T Bennett) T Easterby 6-7-12 L Charnock –
612 (14) 116400- BLACK ICE BOY 53J (B,D,F,S) (Mrs J Marshall) R Bastiman 7-7-11 C Cogan (7) 58
613 (4) 20/000/ SEDVICTA 18J (M Reveley Racing Club) Mrs M Reveley 6-7-10 D Wright –
614 (13) 154000- SUDDEN SPIN 197 (D,F,G) (B Parker) J Norton 8-7-10 N Kennedy 61
615 (10) 040-650 TOP PRIZE 74 (V,D,F) (M Brittain) M Brittain 10-7-10 S Maloney 51

BETTING: 4-1 Mondragon, 5-1 Great Easeby, 6-1 Outset, 7-1 Dulas Bay, 8-1 Arisaig, 10-1 others.

1997: KINOKO 9-7-10 J Bramhill (33-1) K Hogg 16 ran

FORM FOCUS: Outset beat Here Comes Herbie 3l in 17-runner Musselburgh handicap (2m, good to soft); previously beat Highfield Fizz (9lb better) 3½l in 15-runner Redcar handicap (1m 6f, good to firm). Great Easeby 20l 12th of 31 to Turnpole in Newmarket handicap (2m 2f, good). Mondragon 18l 5th of 12 to Glide Path in Southwell handicap (2m, fibresand). Arisaig 7¾l 3rd of 18 to Stoned Imaculate in Nottingham handicap (2m, good to firm). Charity Crusader 5l 2nd of 4 to Good Hand in Redcar seller (1m 6f, firm). Dulas Bay 1½l 2nd of 14 to Carol Again in Southwell handicap (1m 6f, fibresand). Our Main Man neck 2nd of 12 to Monaco Gold in stakes at Southwell (1m 6f, fibresand).

OUTSET, fit from hurdling, is taken to defy topweight

SPECIALISTS

FLAT: Trainers: M Bell, 9 winners from 35 runners, 25.7%; A Bailey, 4 from 18, 22.2%; M Johnston, 24 from 143, 16.8%; S Kettlewell, 4 from 25, 16.0%. Jockeys: M Fenton, 6 winners from 27 rides, 22.2%; D Holland, 8 from 38, 21.1%; J Weaver, 23 from 127, 18.1%; D Harrison, 4 from 24, 16.7%.

NATIONAL HUNT: Trainers: J Jefferson, 10 winners from 42 runners, 23.8%; Mrs M Reveley, 42 from 177, 23.7%; S Kettlewell, 3 from 14, 21.4%; G Richards, 15 from 70, 21.4%. Jockeys: P Niven, 43 winners from 139 rides, 30.9%; P Carberry, 10 from 49, 20.4%; R Garritty, 17 from 93, 18.3%; A Thornton, 6 from 45, 13.3%.

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RUGBY UNION

Ireland send for McCall at centre

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

IRELAND, who must beat England at Twickenham on Saturday to avoid their first Five Nations Championship whitewash for six years, lost the services yesterday of Rob Henderson. The burly Wasps centre suffered a groin injury during his club's Tetley's Bitter Cup semi-final success over Sale at the weekend and withdrew from the Ireland XV after playing in the defeats by France and Wales.

His place goes instead to Mark McCall, the London Irish player who appeared in the opening championship match against Scotland at Lansdowne Road last month. It will be McCall's eleventh cap. Killian Keane, the young Munster midfield player, moves onto the replacements' bench for the first time.

England's team will be named today with the management waiting for fitness reports on Kyran Bracken, who played so well for Saracens during their cup win over Northampton on Saturday. The scrum half played with a partially-dislocated shoulder for most of the game and was seeing a consultant yesterday, though club officials believe the injury to be not as severe as it first appeared.

Bracken has been England's first-choice all season but was forced by shoulder trouble to withdraw from contention for the game with South Africa last November, and against Scotland nine days ago. Matt Dawson, of Northampton, has been an effective replacement but Bracken, admittedly behind a superior pack, carried the day in the personal joust between the two scrum halves at Franklin's Gardens.

Rob Howley is now expected to be fit to lead Wales against France at Wembley on Sunday, the match that will decide the destination of the championship. The Wales squad assembles in Cardiff today and Howley, although he needs more physiotherapy on the ankle injury suffered playing for Cardiff against Pontypridd on Saturday, should not need an X-ray.

David Young, the Cardiff prop who injured a calf muscle during Wales's win over Ireland, is expected to be ready to train with the squad tomorrow but some doubt remains over Kevin Morgan; the Pontypridd full back has a shoulder injury and his club would like to see him rested rather than risk aggravating the damage.

Bristol have confirmed that David Egerton, the former Bath and England No 8, and Darryl Jones, the Neath teacher, will coach the team for the foreseeable future. Meanwhile Gregor Townsend, the Northampton back, has confirmed that he will be touring Australia with Scotland this summer.

CRICKET: ENGLAND CAPTAIN LOOKS FOR SMOOTHER PASSAGE TO ONE-DAY VICTORY

Hollioake seeks comfort zone

By Simon Wilde

ENGLAND'S cricketers were yesterday reflecting on a satisfying, if tense win against West Indies in the first one-day international in Bridgetown on Sunday. Victory by 16 runs maintained Adam Hollioake's 100 per cent record as one-day captain of England and of always winning in nerve-jangling fashion — something on which the team will undoubtedly reflect before the second of five matches in St Lucia tomorrow.

"It was very tense out there — but I've yet to captain a one-day game where we've won it comfortably," Hollioake said, after a game of frenzied high-scoring at Kensington Oval marked by outstanding individual centuries from Nick Knight and Brian Lara. West Indies replied boldly to England's total of 293 for five, but were dismissed with 19 deliveries remaining.

"Nick played a great innings and paced it magnificently on what was a fantastic pitch, but these are a great bunch of guys who all play for each other and always seem to come through in tight games," Hollioake added. "I think we are getting trust in each other now.

"I have seen this team come through many times now — but I would say that we are still only playing to about 80 per cent of our ability." Hollioake led England to four wins on the way to lifting the Champions' Trophy in Sharjah last December.

In fact, while winning easily is obviously preferable, one-day matches routinely go down to the wire and it is the hallmark of the best sides that they come out on top in close encounters. In Bridgetown, England held their nerve when Lara was steaming towards his twelfth one-day century and scoring so quickly that West Indies were always up with the clock.

Fortunately for England, they kept losing wickets as well — but that was partly because of the pressure that was being applied by an England side that kept their focus, just as they had in Sharjah.

The removal of Lara was a classic instance. Earlier in the day Ben Hollioake had been expecting to bat first wicket down, but when Knight and Stewart shared a record opening stand of 165, plans were hastily revised. In the end, the younger Hollioake did not bat at all. Then his bowling was steadfastly overlooked. But when a chance presented itself, Ben Hollioake took it. It was his bullet-like throw from the boundary that ran out Lara.

Late order resistance from Rose and Lewis, who put on 44 for the eighth wicket, kept the match in the balance before another piece of composed work — Stewart's stumping of Lewis off Ealham — finally swung the match England's way.

KIERAN DOHERTY



Adam Hollioake, left, and Fleming celebrate after England's win against West Indies in Bridgetown on Sunday

Cronje on rampage

A SWASHBUCKLING 82 from Hansie Cronje provided the final twist in a gripping second Test match at Centurion Park that ended shortly after tea on the fourth day, with South Africa gaining a six-wicket victory and a 2-0 series win over Sri Lanka (Barney Spender writes).

With his side chasing 226, Cronje came in with the match in the balance and took on the off spin of Muttiah Muralitharan, hitting six sixes and eight fours in a 63-ball stay. He hit three successive sixes to reach his fifty off 31 balls, the second fastest in Tests behind a 30-ball fifty by Kapil Dev, for India against Pakistan in 1982. Gary Kirsten, with 75 not out, saw South Africa home.

BRIDGETOWN SCOREBOARD

West Indies won toss

ENGLAND

N V Knight run out (Lambert)	122
(130 balls, 4 sixes, 13 fours)	
†A J Stewart b Walsh	74
(85 balls, 9 fours)	
G A Hick b Lewis	29
(39 balls)	
G P Thorpe b Simmons	4
(7 balls)	
*A J Hollioake not out	18
(14 balls, 3 fours)	
M A Ealham b Simmons	20
(14 balls, 1 six, 1 four)	
M V Fleming not out	22
(12 balls, 1 six, 2 fours)	
Extras (lb 4)	4
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs, 207min)	293

B C Hollioake, D R Brown, R D B Croft and D W Headley did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-165 (Knight 89), 2-227 (Knight 122), 3-228 (Thorpe 1), 4-249 (A J Hollioake 16), 5-271 (A J Hollioake 18).

BOWLING: Rose 8-0-31-0 (1 six, 4 fours); Walsh 10-0-57-1 (1 six, 8 fours; 7-0-42-0, 3-0-15-1); Ambrose 8-0-42-0 (2 sixes, 2 fours; 5-0-18-0, 3-0-24-0); Hooper 10-0-46-0 (nb 1; 4 fours); Lewis 8-0-55-1 (1 six, 6 fours; 3-0-24-0, 5-0-31-1); Simmons 8-0-58-2 (1 six, 4 fours).

Score after 15 overs: 78-0.

WEST INDIES

C B Lambert c Stewart b Headley	11
(9 balls, 2 fours)	
P A Wallace c Hick b Brown	13
(12 balls, 3 fours)	
*B C Lara run out	110
(B C Hollioake/Stewart)	
(106 balls, 3 sixes, 15 fours)	
C L Hooper c Headley b Fleming	45
(34 balls, 8 fours)	
S Chanderpaul c Knight b Croft	8
(12 balls, 1 four)	
P V Simmons b A J Hollioake	18
(29 balls, 2 fours)	
†J R Murray c Stewart b Headley	7
(13 balls)	
R N Lewis st Stewart b Ealham	27
(33 balls, 3 fours)	
F A Rose c A J Hollioake b Fleming	24
(29 balls, 1 six)	
C E L Ambrose not out	9
(6 balls)	
C A Walsh b Ealham	0
(2 balls)	
Extras (lb 7, w 1, nb 3)	11
Total (46.5 overs, 214min)	277

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25 (Lambert 10), 2-27 (Lara 1), 3-115 (Lara 42), 4-145 (Lara 63), 5-187 (Lara 84), 6-219 (Murray 5), 7-222 (Lewis 0), 8-266 (Rose 17), 9-274.

BOWLING: Brown 5-1-32-1 (w 1; 7 fours); Headley 10-0-83-2 (nb 4; 9 fours; 5-0-34-1, 5-0-29-1); Ealham 7.5-0-37-2 (5 fours; 5-0-29-0, 2.5-0-8-2); Fleming 7-0-54-2 (2 sixes, 6 fours; 5-0-43-1, 2-0-11-1); Croft 10-0-37-1 (3 fours); A J Hollioake 7-1-47-1 (2 sixes, 4 fours; 6-1-35-1, 1-0-11-0).

Score after 15 overs: 111-2.

Umpires: B Morgan and E G Nicholls. Third umpire: H Moore. Referee: R S Madugalle (Sri Lanka).

☐ Compiled by Bill Frindall

SNOOKER: IRISH MASTERS WINNER IN BUOYANT MOOD AS BLUE RIBAND EVENT DRAWS NEAR

O'Sullivan believes world is at his feet



O'Sullivan: confident

By Phil Yates

UNLIKE some of his more guarded colleagues, Ronnie O'Sullivan can always be relied upon to shoot from the hip during a post-match press conference. A poor performance will bring self-criticism: an effective one and the requirements of modesty are ignored.

At 22, O'Sullivan believes he is, quite simply, the best player in the world. After trouncing Ken Doherty, the world champion, 9-3 to prevail at the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters on Sunday, he was asked to assess his form.

"I'm playing to about 70 per cent," O'Sullivan said. Someone then suggested that his rivals would be in serious trouble were he to find the other 30 per cent.

"They already are," the winner of the Riley International, United Kingdom championship and Regal Scottish Open this season added.

"When I'm playing at the top of my game, I know I'll win, no matter who I'm up against. Some people will say I'm big-headed but I speak from the heart and I know if I produce my best stuff it's going to be difficult for anyone to touch me."

More importantly, O'Sullivan is becoming a tougher proposition to defeat when not at his peak. He has more patience than ever and is now prepared to employ a sound tactical knowledge if the situation warrants it. Even so, the great strength of O'Sullivan, who overcame Jimmy White, Stephen Hendry — for the fourth consecutive meeting — and John Higgins to reach the final on Sunday, remains break-building. Against Doherty, he had runs of 83, 107, 64, 77, 68 and 84.

At the British Open, which gets under way in Plymouth on Thursday, O'Sullivan will be hoping to send out another pre-world championship message to his rivals. With the game's blue riband event now only 18 days away, O'Sullivan could hardly be in a more confident frame of mind, and with some justification. "If I can just switch up a gear at the Crucible, I'll cruise," he said.

GOLF

Westwood can swell ranks of young masters

From John Hopkins, Golf Correspondent in Jacksonville, Florida

IT WAS an American who put his finger on the appeal of Lee Westwood. After the Englishman had played so well in the Players Championship here on Sunday, the well-seasoned observer said: "I like the look of him. He looks as though he is enjoying himself."

Well might Westwood be enjoying himself because he is playing the best golf of his short life as a professional. Almost alone of the leading players, he had no experience of the famed Stadium course at Sawgrass, and almost alone of the top 30 golfers Westwood was over par after 36 holes. But such is his ability to assimilate information and such was the quality of his last two rounds of 68 and 69 that he leapt from 49th to joint fifth behind Justin Leonard, the winner by two strokes.

Westwood resembles Ernie Els in his apparently relaxed approach to life. It takes a lot to make him angry and, when he is, he does not remain so for long.

He had been frustrated the previous week at a tournament in Orlando because he had hit the ball well without scoring well. At first it was much the same here, but from three quarters of the way round on Saturday afternoon it was as if a key had suddenly been turned.

Westwood, 24, blazed home, playing confident golf, while all around him, men were struggling with the hard fairways on which it was tricky to control the ball, the difficult pin positions and the firm greens. The inward half, with a par of 36, is the more difficult, and Westwood's scores — 37, 34, 32 and 35 — are revealing. "Pars are like jewels around here," José Maria Olazábal said. "Lee must have played very well."

Westwood has a strong game. As he himself says, he does not do much wrong. He is a big hitter, averaging just under 300 yards from the tee. He hit 40 of the 56 fairways and 52 of the 72 greens in the correct figures. Perhaps his putting could have been better because he averaged just a shade less than 30 each day.

This week, Westwood travels to New Orleans to compete in only his eighth tournament in the US before flying to Augusta on Sunday evening for the Masters. He has virtually assured himself of membership of the US Tour in 1999 by winning $183,000 (about £110,000) already this year. He needs only another $20,000 to guarantee it.

Westwood will play as many as 16 events in the US next year as he strives to become a worthy member of that group of young men who have taken a hold on golf. "Lee is doing all right," Nick Faldo, Westwood's partner at the Ryder Cup, said. "He is a good, solid player. Leave him alone."

Dobson moves into Cup contention

From Patricia Davies in Rancho Mirage

HELEN DOBSON, who had been looking forward to going to Moorfield Village in September as a cheerleader, is now in the reckoning for a place in the Europe Solheim Cup team instead.

Dobson, 27, from Skegness, recorded a 67, five under par, in the final round of the Nabisco Dinah Shore tournament to finish one shot behind Pat Hurst, a laid-back Californian, in the first major championship of the women's season here on Sunday.

Dobson birdied four of the six holes from the 11th to come home in 32 for a total of 282, six under par. Laura Davies, Dobson's compatriot and room-mate, and Helen Alfredsson, of Sweden, the champion in 1993, needed a birdie four at the 18th to finish level with Dobson, but neither could do better than par.

Dobson did not bother with the leaderboard. "I knew I was doing OK," she said, "because some of my friends came out to watch and they only do that if you've got a chance to win." A poor drive on the last hole cost her any chance of forcing a play-off, but she collected a cheque for $93,093 (about £55,000) and moved from 92nd to 14th on the money-list.

Pia Nilsson, the Europe Solheim Cup captain, will have been delighted to see five Europeans finish in the top seven. There was also a promising display by Catriona Matthew, who shared thirteenth place. That ensured that the Scot would be back again next year, along with Lisa Hackney, who slipped to a 76 — double bogeys at the 10th and 17th did the damage — but was still inside the top 20.

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

CARDIFF: Fresenda Provident British Grand Slam: Mens: Singles: Semi-finals: M Edge (Lancashire) bt A Buch (Wiltshire) 15-0, 15-8; C Haughton (Lancashire) bt M Constable (Warwickshire) 15-4, 15-6. Final: Haughton bt Edge 15-9, 15-4. Doubles: Final: S Archer (Worcestershire) and C Hunt (Lancashire) bt N Robertson (Nottinghamshire) and J Robertson (Northamptonshire) 11-15, 15-7, 15-5. Women: Singles: Semi-finals: T Dineen (Essex) bt R Pantaney (Gloucestershire) 11-5, 11-3; J Mann (Warwickshire) bt G Martin (Scot) 11-1, 11-2. Final: Mann bt Dineen 11-4, 11-1. Doubles: Final: J Goode (Hertfordshire) and D Kellogg (Derbyshire) bt N Beck (Buckinghamshire) and J Davies (Lincolnshire) 15-5, 15-4. Mixed doubles: Final: Archer and Goode bt Hunt and Kellogg 15-7, 15-10.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): San Antonio 74 Indiana 55; Miami 109 Houston 77; Atlanta 119 Detroit 95; Cleveland 97 Charlotte 82; Phoenix 106 Vancouver 98; Orlando 95 Toronto 68; Chicago 104 Milwaukee 87; Philadelphia 99 Boston 94; Portland 99 Golden State 83; Minnesota 104 Sacramento 96; LA Clippers 108 Dallas 86; LA Lakers 116 Washington 89.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham Bullets 75 Leicester Riders 73; Chester Jets 60 Derby Storm 82; London Towers 66 Sheffield Sharks 72; Manchester Giants 86 Thames Valley Tigers 90.

	P	W	L	Pts
Birmingham	34	27	7	54
London Leopards	34	27	7	54
Newcastle	35	25	10	50
Sheffield	34	24	10	48
Thames Valley	34	23	11	46
London Towers	35	23	12	46
Derby	34	15	19	30
Manchester	34	15	19	30
Leicester	34	14	20	28
Chester	34	13	21	26
Crystal Palace	34	7	27	14
Worthing	35	7	28	14
Watford	35	3	32	6

BOWLS

MELTON MOWBRAY: Men's All England Indoor championships: Fours: Semi-finals: Stanley (J Leeman) bt North Walsham (D Ward) 22-13; Nottingham (B Morley) bt Grantham (D Auckland) 18-17. Triples: First round: Wey Valley (B Emanuel) bt City of Coventry (E Over) 14-11; Nottingham (P Talbot) bt Falcon (J Ridley) 18-13; Spennymoor (B Condron) bt Fox Hill (A Walton) 24-7; Newcastle (M Bennett) bt Peterborough (J Mawson) 19-5. East Dorset (R Morgan) bt Watford (R Puddephatt) 26-4; Dorchester (A Tidley) bt Worthing (P Caswell) 17-12; Cambridge Park (G Lattle) bt Ryedale (N Bingnall) 21-5; Acle (P Bern) bt Whiteknights (K Nash) 16-14.

CRICKET

Second Test match
South Africa v Sri Lanka

CENTURION (fourth day of five). South Africa beat Sri Lanka by six wickets

SRI LANKA: First Innings 303 (S T Jayasuriya 51, R S Mahanama 50, A Ranatunga 73, H P Tillekaratne 55).

Second Innings

S T Jayasuriya b Donald	16
M S Atapattu c Boucher b Donald	7
R S Mahanama lbw b Donald	0
P A de Silva run out	41
*A Ranatunga c Boucher b Cronje	0
H P Tillekaratne c sub b Cronje	0
†R S Kaluwitharana run out	0
G P Wickremasinghe b Adams	21
D N T Zoysa c Boucher b Donald	14
M Muralitharan c Kirsten b Donald	15
K R Pushpakumara not out	0
Extras (lb 5, nb 3)	8
Total	122

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-19, 3-40, 4-40, 5-42, 6-42, 7-85, 8-98, 9-118.

BOWLING: Donald 13.3-2-54-5; Nbm 6-2-13-0; Kallis 7-3-12-0; Cronje 8-3-13-2; Adams 7-1-25-1.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 200 (D J Cullinan 103; M Muralitharan 5 for 63)

Second Innings

G Kirsten not out	75
G F J Liebenberg lbw b Muralitharan	45
H D Ackerman b Muralitharan	2
D J Cullinan lbw b Muralitharan	0
W J Cronje c de Silva b Jayasuriya	82
J H Kallis not out	0
Extras (b 8, lb 3, nb 11)	22
Total (4 wkts)	226

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-89, 2-99, 3-99, 4-215.

BOWLING: Pushpakumara 7-2-27-0; Zoysa 2-0-11-0; Wickremasinghe 6-1-7-0; de Silva 5-1-14-0; Muralitharan 23.5-4-94-3; Jayasuriya 19-6-82-1.

Man of the match: A A Donald (South Africa)

Man of the series: D J Cullinan (South Africa)

Umpires: Javed Akhtar (Pakistan) and R E Koertzen (South Africa).

FOOTBALL

Sunday's late results

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Piacenza 0 Empoli 0.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Celta Vigo 3 Barcelona 1.

GERMAN LEAGUE: FC Cologne 2 VfL Bochum 1.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Metz 0 Lens 2; Cannes 3 Marseilles 3.

DUTCH LEAGUE: RKC Waalwijk 4 Graafschap Doetinchem 1; Willem II Tilburg 3 Utrecht 2; Twente Enschede 1 Ajax 2; Feyenoord 5 Volendam 0.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Varzim 1 Farense 0; Amadora 2 Sporting 1.

GOLF

SAWGRASS, Florida: Players Championship: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 278: J Leonard 72, 68, 70, 68. 280: T Lehman 72, 70, 70, 68; G Day 66, 73, 70, 71. 281: M Calcavecchia 69, 75, 68, 69. 282: L Westwood (GB) 74, 71, 68, 69; S Hoch 73, 69, 70, 70; L Mattiace 68, 71, 72, 70. 283: P Stewart 72, 71, 75, 65; N Price (Zim) 71, 72, 70, 70. 284: S Verplank 71, 71, 72, 70; E Els (SA) 71, 72, 70, 71. 285: J Cook 71, 73, 71, 70; T Jenson 70, 73, 79; B Lietzke 69, 70, 74, 72. 286: D Sutherland 72, 73, 69, 71; J Daly 71, 70, 76, 69. Other scores: 287: N Faldo (GB) 75, 69, 70, 73. 288: J Parnevik (Swe) 72, 72, 72, 72; J M Olazábal (Sp) 72, 74, 70, 72. 290: T Woods 72, 73, 73, 72.

RANCHO MIRAGE, California: Dinah Shore championship: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 281: P Hurst 68, 72, 70, 71. 282: H Dobson (GB) 70, 74, 71, 67. 283: L Dawes (GB) 75, 70, 70, 68; H Alfredsson (Swe) 70, 73, 70, 70. 284: L Neumann (Swe) 69, 71, 71, 73. 286: A Sorenstam (Swe) 76, 71, 69, 70; K Webb (Aus) 71, 70, 70, 75. 287: D Hooper 69, 72, 74, 68; S Steinhauer 69, 76, 71, 71. 288: A Fruhwirth 73, 71, 73, 71; D Coe-Jones (Can) 70, 72, 74, 72. 289: C Matthew (GB) 75, 74, 70, 70; N Lopez 71, 71, 73, 74; P Hammel 73, 72, 71, 73. Other scores: 291: L Hackney (GB) 71, 71, 73, 76. 294: A Nicholas (GB) 75, 70, 75, 74. 298: K Marshall (GB) 73, 73, 75, 77.

SAN ANTONIO: Southwestern Bell Dominion tournament: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 203: L Trevino 69, 69, 67. 207: M McCullough 67, 73, 67. 209: D Eichelberger 68, 74, 67; J Segal 70, 71, 68; D Stockton 71, 67, 71. Other scores: 211: J M Canizares (Sp) 73, 71, 67. 212: R Floyd 72, 68, 72. 215: V Fernandez 75, 72, 68. 219: B Barnes (GB) 71, 73, 75. 221: D Graham (Aus) 76, 70, 75.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh 1 Ottawa 1 (OT); Florida 4 Chicago 0; Philadelphia 3 Carolina 1; Detroit 4 Buffalo 2; Dallas 3 New Jersey 1.

JUDO

EDINBURGH: Commonwealth championships: Men: Heavyweight: N Odekwadia (Fij) bt R Blanes (Eng) throw. Light-heavyweight: K Dawes (Eng) bt D Gowing (NZ) dec. Middleweight: J C Raphael (Mauri) bt S King (SA) throw. Light-middleweight: G Randall (Scot) bt J Nicholson (Eng) hold down. Lightweight: L Harrow (Eng) bt J-P Alaria (Can) dec. Featherweight: J Warren (Eng) bt H Wessels (SA) throw. Bantamweight: N Singh (India) bt J Buchanan (Scot) throw. Flyweight: V Singh (India) bt D Kirby (Eng) dec. Women: Heavyweight: K Bryant (Eng) bt L Dadswell-Smith (Can) throw. Light-heavyweight: S Hart (Scot) bt S Seaman (SA) hold down. Light-middleweight: S Clarke (Scot) bt R Eddy (Wales) throw. Middleweight: R Wilding (Eng) bt A Sneddon (Scot) throw. Lightweight: C Richards (Wales) bt N Barry (Eng) dec. Featherweight: G Singleton (Eng) bt C Scourfield (Wales) throw. Bantamweight: J Herron (Scot) bt D Mootnoo (Maur) dec. Flyweight: R Rani (India) bt F Robertson (Scot) dec.

MOTORCYCLING

BRANDS HATCH: Motor Cycle News British Superbike Championship: First race (24 laps, 28.8 miles): 1, C Walker (GB, Kawasaki) 18min 24.72sec; 2, S Emmett (GB, Ducati) 18:28.635; 3, J Haydon (GB, Suzuki) 18:28.130; 4, T Bayliss (Aus, Ducati) 18:32.479; 5, T Rymer (GB, Suzuki) 18:32.739; 6, N Mackenzie (GB, Yamaha) 18:33.275. Second race (24 laps: 28.8miles): 1, Mackenzie 18min 23.198sec; 2, S Haslam (GB, Yamaha) 18:25.291; 3, Walker 18:25.991; 4, Emmett 18:26.556; 5, Bayliss 18:32.430; 6, Rymer 18:32.573. Leading overall positions: 1, Walker 41pts; 2, Mackenzie 35; 3, Emmett 33; 4, Haslop 29; 5, Haydon 24; 6, Bayliss 24.

MOTOR RACING

MOTEGI, Japan: CART Championship series: Second round: 1, A Fernandez (Mex, Reynard-Ford) 1hr 57min 12.016sec; 2, A Unser Jr (US, Penske-Mercedes) at 1.086; 3, G de Ferran (Br, Reynard-Honda) 5.398; 4, G Moore (Can, Reynard-Mercedes) 7.923; 5, P Tracy (Can, Reynard-Honda) 8.150; 6, T Kanaan (Br, Reynard-Honda) at lap; 7, J Vasser (US, Reynard-Honda) 1lap; 8, D Franchitti (Scot, Reynard-Honda) 1lap; 9, A Ribeiro (Br, Penske-Mercedes) 2laps; 10, M Blundell (Eng, Reynard-Mercedes) 2laps.

RUGBY LEAGUE

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Western Suburbs 42 South Sydney 6; Canberra 18 Gold Coast 4; North Sydney 28 St George 8; Cronulla 18 Melbourne 26; Illawarra 18 Newcastle 37; Brisbane 26 Penrith 18; Balmain 18 Manly 4; Adelaide 22 Canterbury 20; Auckland 25 Sydney City 14; Parramatta 15 North Queensland 18.

RUGBY UNION

HONG KONG SEVENS: Bowl: Final: Morocco 31 Taiwan 14. Plate: Final: South Korea 40 Papua New Guinea 14. Cup: Final: Fiji 28 Samoa 19.

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool one: Dax 37 La Rochelle 25; Toulouse 35 Montlezand 20; Bèziers 16 Colomiers 18; Biarritz 30 Nice 14; Brive 36 Narbonne 29. Pool two: Bourgoin 25 Agen 27; Stade Français 28 Pau 23; Toulon 25 Bègles-Bordeaux 25; Castres 18 Perpignan 17.

ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool one: Milan 29 Treviso 76; Padova 29 Calvisano 25; Roma 52 Rovigo 20. Pool two: Livorno 10 Piacenza 52; L'Aquila 37 Bologna 20; San Dona 65 Fiamme Oro 24.

SAILING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Sixth leg (São Sebastião to Fort Lauderdale): Positions (at 1200GMT yesterday, with miles to Fort Lauderdale): 1, Silk Cut (GB) finished in 14 days 19hr 55min 9sec; 2, EF Language (Swe) at 14:21:13:17; 3, Swedish Match (Swe) 14:22:13:17; 4, Innovation Kreemer (Ner) 15:07:59:01; 5, Merit Cup (Monaco) 15:11:37:39; 6, Chessie Racing (US) 15:19:39:12; 7, Toshiba (US) 15:19:42:05; 8, BrunelSunergy (Holl) 115.6 miles; 9, EF Education (Swe) 146.9.

SNOOKER

GOFFS, Co Kildaire: Benson and Hedges Irish Masters: Final: O'Sullivan bt Doherty 9-3. (Frames scores, O'Sullivan first: 52-51, 84-9, 115-18, 65-0, 0-122, 77-46, 37-82, 69-31, 118-1, 24-57, 98-21, 84-0).

EMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW: First round: S Lee (Eng) v A Hicks (Eng); J Wattana (Thai) v F O'Brien (Irel); M O'Sullivan (Eng) v J Swail (N Ire); A Robidoux (Can) v M Stevens (Wales); P Ebdon (Eng) v T Murphy (N Ire); M Williams (Wales) v C Han (Aus); A Dago (Malta) v A Burden (Eng); S Hendry (Scot) v J White (Eng); S Davis (Eng) v S Bedford (Eng); A McManus (Scot) v D Gray (Eng); K Doherty (Ire) v L Walker (Wales); N Bond (Eng) v M King (Eng); D Morgan (Wales) v J Prince (N Ire); J Higgins (Scot) v J Ferguson (Eng); A Hamilton (Eng) v D Harold (Eng); J Parrott (Eng) v P Lines (Eng).

SPEEDWAY

SPEEDWAY STAR CUP: Eastbourne 52 Poole 38; Swindon 41 Wolverhampton 49.

PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Glasgow 8 Hull 4 (abandoned after two heats because of rain).

TYNE/TWEED TROPHY: Second leg: Newcastle 55 Berwick 34 (Newcastle won 95-84 on agg).

TENNIS

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida: Lipton championships: Men: Final: M Rios (Chile) bt A Agassi (US) 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.

SQUASH

MOT

Easy start for Jansher

Cou

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Uefa Cup

Semi-finals, first leg

Atlético Madrid v Lazio (8.30)

Internazionale v Spartak Moscow (7.45)

FA Carling Premiership

Blackburn v Barnsley (7.45)

Bolton v Arsenal (8.0)

Wimbledon v Newcastle (7.45)

Nationwide League

Second division

Oldham v Bristol City (7.45)

Walsall v Gillingham (7.45)

Wrexham v Grimsby

Third division

Darlington v Shrewsbury

Vauxhall Conference

Dover v Hereford (7.45)

Leek v Kettering (7.45)

Slough v Gateshead (7.45)

Telford v Cheltenham (7.45)

Woking v Stevenage (7.45)

Yeovil v Southport (7.45)

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Chorley v Radcliffe Borough; Marine v Hyde; Runcorn v Gateley; Spennymoor v Altrincham. First division: Buxton v Droylsden; Harrogate Town v Grantham; Lincoln United v Worksop; Netherfield v Whitby.

RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Boreham Wood v Enfield; Chesham v Basingstoke. First division: Romford v Worthing; Staines v Hampton; Wembley v Aldershot Town. Second division: Braintree v Wealdstone; Met Police v Leighton Town; Northwood v Horsham; Tooting and Mitcham v Chesham. Third division: Camberley Town v Wingate and Finchley; Clapton v Tring; East Thurrock v Ware; Ford United v Fladswell Heath.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern division: Clevedon v Fareham; Witney v Erith and Belvedere. Midland division: Moor Green v Weston; Sutton Coldfield Town v Stafford.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Crystal Palace v Oxford United (at Plough Lane, 2.0); Millwall v Watford (2.0); Swindon v Queens Park Rangers (7.15); West Ham v Arsenal (at Southend United FC, 7.45).

POINTIN'S LEAGUE: League Cup: Semi-final: Blackpool v Rotherham (7.0).

COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Bicester v Didcot.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Folkestone Invicta v Herne Bay; Whitstable Town v Cray.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridgwater v Tiverton; Odd Down v Cobra. Paulton R v Bristol Manor Farm; Chard v Barnstaple.

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chipstead v Westfield.

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division south: Brook House v Amersham. Premier division north: Astesey Town v Potters Bar Town.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton Collieries v Atherton LR; Chadderton v Mainé Road; Darwen v Heslington; Nantwich Town v Vauxhall GM; Rossendale v Clitheroe.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Gornal A v Wolverhampton C.

JENSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division (7.45): Sudbury Wanderers v Harwich and Parkeston; Watton v Histon.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v Desborough; Bourne v Wellingborough; Buckingham v N Spencer; Ford Sports v Stotfold; Potton v M Blackstone; St Neots v Wootton; S and L Corby v Eynesbury.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Littlehampton v Pagham; Shoreham v Arundel.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Chasetown v Boldmere St M; Wednesfield v Stratford T.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Newport v Royal Navy (7.0)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: EIBA national championship finals (in Melton Mowbray).

SNOOKER: British Open (at Plymouth Pavilions).

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday, April 4

Coupon No. fixture, forecast

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

1 Sheff W v South'pton X
2 Tottenham v Everton 1

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

3 Bury v Huddersfield 2
4 Man C v Stockport 1
5 Norwich v Bradford 2
6 Port Vale v Oxford X
7 Portsm'th v Birm'gham 2
8 Reading v Stoke 1
9 Swindon v Charlton 2
10 W Brom v Middlesbro 2

SECOND DIVISION

11 Blackpool v Walsall 1
12 B'mouth v Wycombe 1
13 Bristol C v Carlisle 1
14 Fulham v Preston 1
15 Grimsby v Gill'gham X
16 Luton v York 1
17 Millwall v Bristol R 1
18 North'pton v Burnley 1
19 Oldham v Plymouth 1
20 Wigan v Watford 2
21 Wrexham v Brentford 1

THIRD DIVISION

22 Brighton v Scunth'pe 2
23 Darlington v Barnet X
24 Doncaster v Hull X
25 Exeter v Chester 1
26 Hartlep'l v Cambr'ge U 1
27 L Orient v Mansfield 1
28 Macclesf'ld v Lincoln 2
29 Swansea v Shrewsbury 1
30 Torquay v Rochdale 1

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

31 Raith v G Morton 1
32 St Mirren v Hamilton X

SECOND DIVISION

33 Brechin v Stenh'smuir 2
34 Livingston v Clyde 1
35 Stranraer v Cowdenbeath 1

THIRD DIVISION

36 Cowdenb'th v Berwick X
37 Dumbarton v E Stirling 2
38 Montrose v Queen's Pk 2

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

39 Halifax v Woking 1
40 Leek v Yeovil X
41 StAlbans v Hereford 2
42 Welling v Morecambe X

DR MARTENS LEAGUE

43 Bath v Atherstone 1
44 Cambr'ge C v Dorch'r X
45 Crawley v King's Lynn 2
46 Hastings v Gresley 1
47 Nuneaton v St Leon'ds 1
48 Rothwell v Ashford 1
49 Salisbury v Bi'sgrove 1

TREBLE CHANCE (Home teams). Sheffield Wednesday, Port Vale, Grimsby, Darlington, Doncaster, St Mirren, Cowdenbeath, Leek, Welling, Cambridge City.

BEST DRAWS: Sheffield Wednesday, Port Vale, Doncaster, Leek, Welling.

AWAYS: Bradford, Charlton, Middlesbrough, Scunthorpe, Queen's Park.

HOMES: Tottenham, Blackpool, Bristol City, Luton, Northampton, Exeter, Swansea, Torquay, Raith.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Tottenham, Bristol City, Luton, Swansea, Torquay. Aways: Bradford, Middlesbrough, Scunthorpe. Draws: Sheffield Wednesday, Port Vale, Doncaster.

Vince Wright

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FOOTBALL

Heavyweights battle to take control of Fifa

BY ROB HUGHES

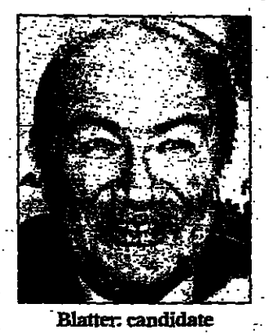
THE smooth running of the World Cup finals this summer — not to mention the politics concerning England's bid to stage the tournament in 2006 — have been placed in jeopardy by the formal announcement yesterday that Sepp Blatter is to stand against Lennart Johansson in the struggle to rule Fifa, the world governing body of football.

It was, perhaps, the sport's worst-kept secret. Johansson, the chairman of the 1998 World Cup organising committee, is to be opposed, in the bitterest of contests, by Blatter, the general secretary and chief executive of both Fifa and the organising committee. They have become harsh rivals already in a massive power game, one that will lead to control of future World Cups, which will each command $1 billion in television revenues.

It is crucial that the two leading planners for the World Cup in France get and keep their heads together, but how can they when Blatter's supporters, who are synonymous with João Havelange, the supposedly retiring Fifa president, exchange insults with their opponents? First, the Havelange-Blatter cartel said that Johansson was "Germany's puppet", referring to his support for the German bid to stage the 2006 finals; on Sunday, Johansson responded, addressing Blatter as "Havelange's puppet".

Last Thursday, Blatter wrote to Havelange suggesting that he would not stand down from his duties as Fifa's paid administrator, but rather would work from home, entrusting to Michel Zen-Ruffinen, his young deputy general secretary, the day-to-day administration of Fifa headquarters in Zurich.

Blatter's announcement was made yesterday in Paris, in the headquarters of the French World Cup organising offices, totally in French and with the promise that Michel Platini would become Blatter's "sports director". Coincidentally, in lavish surroundings on the first floor of the Eiffel Tower last Thursday, Havelange, still an imposing and commanding figure in his 82nd year, was at the centre of campaigning for France to give government approval to the Blatter presidency.



Blatter: candidate

Havelange has been trying for the past year to usurp Johansson's claim to the succession. He has stated that Johansson, already the president of Uefa, the European governing body, would simply extend Europe's fiscal and administrative power.

"Latin football must rebel," the ageing autocrat said. "France, Italy, Spain and Portugal must lead the fight." He proposed his friend, Julio Grondona, of Argentina, as his successor; there was no wide support. He appealed to Platini, then Franz Beckenbauer, then Issa Hayatou, the president of the African Football Confederation, to stand. Finally, though telling everyone to the last moment that he must remain neutral, Havelange canvassed on behalf of Blatter.

By yesterday, Blatter could announce that he had support from the United States, Venezuela, Guyana, Qatar, Uruguay, Libya, Algeria, Australia, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Jamaica, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. However, Johansson had been promised support from 50 of the 51 European nations and, in a pact with Hayatou, all 51 of the African countries. In his published presidential manifesto, he had the written endorsements of Pelé, of Beckenbauer, of Sir Bobby Charlton and, doubtless to the dismay of Havelange, of Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee.

In simple terms, what is on offer is a new road or a continuation of the Havelange era, through his administrative lieutenant since 1981, Blatter — Blatter, who was asked if he endorsed Havelange's recent support for England's 2006 bid. He said that, logically, Africa (through the rival bid of South Africa) would host the event. "But I shall be totally neutral," he added.

Newcastle rueing the loss of injured Lee

BY DAVID MADDOCK

THEIR league positions may be poles apart, but Arsenal and Newcastle United have similar problems. Both were dealt severe blows yesterday with injury worries that affect, in the case of Arsenal, FA Carling Premiership ambitions, and, for both, hopes in the semi-finals of the FA Cup next Sunday.

The prospects of Newcastle, threatened increasingly by relegation, beating Wimbledon tonight and Sheffield United at the weekend suffered a blow with the news that Robert Lee, their captain, is suffering from a hamstring injury. Lee said: "I am having intensive treatment, but it's not looking good."

Arsenal had hoped that Ian Wright would return from a groin injury tonight to bolster their Premiership challenge against Bolton Wanderers, but Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, said yesterday: "His injury hasn't responded as expected and he has only a ten per cent chance of playing in the semi-final." The striker's absence will be felt particularly keenly because Dennis Bergkamp is beginning a three-match suspension.

Barnsley moved swiftly yesterday to head off any action from the Football Association by banning indefinitely those supporters who ran on to the pitch during their defeat on Saturday by Liverpool, in which three of their players were sent off.

They have little time to dwell on that result, however, for they take on Blackburn Rovers tonight at Ewood Park. Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn manager, has been told that he can spend up to £18 million — the sum he has raised in selling 12 players so far this season — on buying new players this summer.



JEFF HAYNES

Kwan talks to Frank Carroll, her coach, during training for the world championships

Kwan has way clear to gold

FROM ANGELA COURT IN MINNEAPOLIS

THERE may be plenty of American glitz here at the world figure skating championships, but one of the biggest stars in the country, Tara Lipinski, is not present to defend her title.

The women skated their qualifying rounds yesterday and there is little doubt that the main attraction of the actual event, which starts on Friday, was to have been Lipinski, the Olympic champion, going head-to-head with another American, Michelle Kwan, who had to settle for the silver medal at the Nagano Games last month. Since the bronze medal-winner, Lu Chen, of China, is also not skating here, it would seem that Kwan is assured of victory.

There was talk of Lipinski not skating here even before she left Nagano, with those close to her supposedly not wanting to pit her against Kwan again so soon. At the time, Lipinski insisted that she would compete, but a post-Olympics schedule of parades and chat shows has left the 15-year-old tired, and a subsequent medical examination showed her to be suffering from swollen glands.

Lipinski has, however, continued with her personal appearances — which included attending the Academy awards ceremony in Hollywood last week — and will skate on the lucrative US tour of world champions that begins next week.

The leading skaters of the modern era can now make thousands of dollars from exhibitions and personal appearances, trading on their titles. Because of this, it is felt that had Lipinski skated here and been beaten by Kwan, it would have tarnished her image. It does little for the sport, with agents putting pressure on skaters to "pick and choose" their events.

Ironically, Kwan has been ill herself, suffering from an eye infection and headaches, but to withdraw here has not even crossed her mind. She insists that she is now fine, although she lost valuable training time during her recovery.

The championships officially open today, with the compulsory dances and pairs short programme. Anjelika Krylova and Oleg Ovsyannikov, of Russia, are favourites for the dance title while, in the pairs, Oksana Kazakova and Artur Dmitriev and Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze, both from Russia, will do battle for gold.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Victors of play-offs to win grand prize

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE winners of the inaugural JJB Super League grand final, at Old Trafford in October, will receive £275,000, nearly three times the amount that Bradford Bulls earned for taking the title last year under the discarded first-past-the-post system.

Total prize-money for the new Australian-style play-off format, which will determine the champions this season, is a record £750,000. The runners-up will receive £175,000 and the third, fourth and fifth-placed clubs will collect £130,000, £100,000 and £70,000 respectively.

Bradford begin their title defence away to newly-promoted Huddersfield Giants on Friday. Under the new format, the top five finishers when the 23-match league programme is completed will embark on a series of play-offs over four weeks, culminating in a grand final on October 24. The higher-placed finishers will have home advantage until the final: the fifth-placed team would have to beat all four sides above them to become champions.

It is a variation on the play-off theme abandoned in 1973 after 64 years, but which has proved successful in Australia. For kudos, the grand final may not rival the traditional Challenge Cup final at Wembley in May, but it will provide the most exciting climax possible to the domestic season. "It will sustain interest from April right through to the end of October," Maurice Lindsay, the managing director of Super League (Europe), said.

Meanwhile, Lindsay gave an assurance that Hull Sharks would start the season on time. The club's future was put in doubt last week when David Lloyd, the former tennis player and the club's majority shareholder, withdrew a £500,000 loan because of opposition to a share capital proposal at the annual meeting. Lloyd has since assumed ownership of the players — the Sharks' only collateral — and loaned them back to the club.

By reaching the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final and securing an additional £500,000 in sponsorship, Wigan Warriors are hopeful of meeting the salary cap requirement of 50 per cent of turnover, which should enable them to keep hold of Gary Connolly, the Great Britain centre.



Lindsay: sustains interest

SPORT IN BRIEF

Palmer's folly costly for holders

■ **BOWLS:** Tim Mitchell, Phil Talbot, Duncan Robinson and Brett Morley, from Nottingham, won the English indoor fours title at Melton Mowbray yesterday when they beat the defending champions, Ian Peacock, Eddie Henry, Chris Palmer and John Leeman, from Stanley, 21-16, in the final (David Rhys Jones writes).

Although Nottingham opened up a 6-0 lead, Stanley overhauled them by the tenth end, but Nottingham scored nine shots to one between the twelfth and fifteenth ends to lead 17-13 with four ends to play. The last end was a disappointment for Palmer, who had played well throughout. With Stanley trailing 16-18, and holding three shots, he played a overweighted delivery and gave the shots away.

Leeman had no option but to fire in the hope of killing the end and almost sent the jack off the rink, but it stopped short of the string, leaving Nottingham holding three shots.

World in motion

■ **SWIMMING:** The World Cup Series is to be extended to 12 events, across three continental zones, in 1998-99 despite evidence that the 1998 Cup, which concluded in Paris on Sunday, had been weakened by an extension from seven to nine rounds as federations and swimmers found the costs of globe-trotting too hefty (Craig Lord writes).

The 1999 series will mark the first time rounds have been held in the United States and Canada for nine years, and Australia will host two meets. Points will be counted at any six of the 12 rounds, though swimmers have to compete in at least one of the competitions away from their own continent. The prize-money will be raised to $230,000 (about £135,000), with $10,000 for category winners. The final round will be in Imperia, Italy, on March 3 and 4.

Newton's lead

■ **CYCLING:** Chris Newton, of Team Brite, is 46 points clear in the Premier Calendar competition, a series of Britain's 19 leading road races after his victory in the Europa two-day event.

Alcott's crown

■ **SKIING:** Chemmy Alcott, 15, from Twickenham, won the women's slalom title at the British Land national junior championships in Tignes, France yesterday.

SQUASH

Uneasy start for Jansher

JANSHER KHAN struggled to kick his sixth successive defence of the British Open championship into life at Lambs Club in London with a 91-minute, 17-15, 3-15, 17-15, 5-15, 15-6 first-round victory over Stefan Casteleyn, of Belgium, yesterday. Several players closer to the starts of their careers entered the fray with a good deal more confidence (Colin McQuillan writes).

David Evans, the 23-year-old Welsh champion, reached 17 places up the world rankings to remove Del Harris, the No 11 seed, 9-15, 15-11, 15-7, 15-9, in 70 minutes and could look for more success when the play moves to the Perspex showcourt at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham tomorrow.

Jonathon Power, of Canada, the No 3 seed, came through 15-14, 15-14, 15-7 against Tony Hands, of Essex, and now meets Evans in the second round.

In the women's championship, Janie Thacker, the England No 12, defeated Philippa Beams, of New Zealand, the No 14 seed, 10-8, 9-2, 10-8 in 48 minutes, and Rebecca Macree, the England No 8, beat Robyn Cooper, of Australia, the No 15 seed, 9-6, 4-9, 1-9, 10-9, 10-8, in 55 minutes.

MOTOR RACING: McLAREN LEADER EXPECTS RIVAL TEAMS TO BRIDGE EARLY-SEASON GAP

Coulthard aims to make quick getaway

FROM KEVIN EASON IN SÃO PAULO

THE individual battle among the McLaren drivers will intensify in the forthcoming weeks, even if the team stays streets ahead of the field after its second successive triumph of the season in the Brazilian Grand Prix here on Sunday.

David Coulthard seemingly did his hopes of taking the world drivers' title irreparable damage when he moved over at the Australian Grand Prix, the first race of the season, to allow Mika Hakkinen, his team-mate, to win, in accordance with a pre-race agreement. On Sunday, Hakkinen led his team-mate from the start.

Hakkinen spent the winter studying Coulthard's starting technique and practising fast getaways. In the first two races of the season, Coulthard has not been able to beat Hakkinen to the crucial first corner and so gain a potentially unassailable lead.

"Getting to the first corner first is so important when you are in cars which are so close in performance, because you just cannot overtake," Coulthard said. "That is something I will have to work on if things are going to improve. But I am optimistic that they will and I am looking forward to some circuits where I might do better than I did in Australia and Brazil."

The McLaren team has, meanwhile, been forced on the defensive over its sophisticated two-pedal braking system. Neither Ron Dennis nor the drivers will talk about it but the allegations are that it allows the drivers to bias the rear brakes, effectively helping to steer the car.

Stewards in Brazil banned the two-pedal system after complaints from five teams, but it did not seem to make any difference, such was the superiority of the McLarens. Yet Dennis and his team then drove into unwarranted trouble by seemingly questioning the authority of the race stewards.

As a result, McLaren is on report to the FIA, Formula One's governing body, and could face the wrath of FIA officials running out of patience with a sport that has attracted more than its fair share of public ire recently. After all that, it is not difficult to imagine that Dennis believes the world is against McLaren at the moment.

"That race [in Australia] was the result of remarkable commitment by a lot of people in Woking," he said, "and I felt for them listening to criticism simply because they were successful. It was a Herculean effort to get those cars ready in the timescale but it seemed difficult for praise to be awarded for that.

"If you look at David, who kept his word and was the complete sportsman, he displayed qualities and values which seem to be sadly lacking in society at the moment, yet he has been pilloried."

In adversity, McLaren closes ranks and will probably prove even tougher to unseat from its position of domination, as much for the fact that McLaren had to face its time in the wilderness, having not won the constructors' championship since 1991, while Williams prospered.

It has been a bitter experience for a man used to success, making him critical now of those who appear to begrudge McLaren's early-season stranglehold. "We have worked hard to be this successful," he said. "We exist to win grand prix races after all. The other teams will catch up and it will not take long because that is the way it happens in Formula One."



ENRIQUE MARCARIAN

Hakkinen, left, sprays Coulthard and Michael Schumacher, right

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort		Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	0	130	fair	spring	closed	fine	8	23/3
(Spring conditions with best snow before lunch)								
St Anton	25	300	fair	varied	slushy	sun	15	23/3
(Good skiing before 2pm)								
Soll	0	100	fair	spring	closed	fine	9	23/3
(Top pistes still in reasonably good shape)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	60	230	fair	spring	slush	fair	9	23/3
(Some good snow available at altitude)								
Avoriaz	105	135	fair	poor	slush	sun	6	24/3
(Warm spring skiing with plenty of afternoon slush)								
S Chevalier	30	190	fair	spring	slushy	sun	12	24/3
(Pistes above 2,000m skiing well)								
Tignes	100	210	fair	heavy	slushy	sun	7	24/3
(North-facing slopes holding best snow)								
ITALY								
Livigno	40	160	fair	varied	slushy	fine	6	23/3
(Upper slopes in generally good shape)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	0	190	slushy	spring	closed	sun	12	23/3
(Best skiing to be found at glacier level)								
Klosters	20	170	good	heavy	slush	fine	8	25/3
(Good skiing available on many upper runs)								
Saas Fee	40	195	good	varied	slush	sun	13	24/3
(Glacier pistes skiing very well)								
Wengen	0	40	fair	varied	closed	sun	12	24/3
(Enjoyable skiing to be found in morning)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper

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Cheerless Chilean unseats Sampras as the world No 1

Rios unmoved by rapid rise

AL BELLO / ALLSPORT



Rios shows no trace of emotion as he leads the celebrations of his Chilean supporters in Key Biscayne on Sunday

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA

"WHAT do you want me to do, jump up and down? Maybe I don't show my feelings." The words could apply equally to a moment of frustration or jubilation. Marcelo Rios delivered them within minutes of humbling Andre Agassi in the final of the Lipton championships, the so-called fifth grand slam, safe in the knowledge that he had just ended the two-year reign of Pete Sampras as the world No 1.

No hint of a smile broke his stern façade as he waved the Chilean flag to his legion of supporters here on Sunday. Many had flown in to acclaim the first player from South America to scale such heights, yet Rios appeared unmoved. The player dubbed "The Most Hated Man In Tennis" recently by *Sports Illustrated* was behaving true to form.

Later, as he departed the scene of his victory, he sat impassively behind the wheel of his car as security men cleared a path through his exultant supporters. In Santiago, Rios's home city, they congregated, horns hooting, in the Plaza Italia, where they celebrate the achievements of their footballers. "Rios, Rios, numero uno," they chanted long into the night.

It was perhaps symbolic that Rios toppled Sampras in the latter's backyard. Sampras is undemonstrative; Rios can be downright hostile. If winning gives him pleasure, he is not prepared to share it.

The son of a wealthy engineer, Rios, 22, poses problems for marketing men in a sport that is increasingly subservient to hype. He protects his privacy like a cobra guards her young. He is contemptuous of the game's former greats; reportedly unaware, until recently, of Rod Laver's achievements; dismissive, by some accounts, of advice proffered by Guillermo Vilas, from Argentina, four times a winner of grand-slam events.

This is anathema to those in whose middle-class roots the game is so firmly enmeshed. It is ironic that Nike, whose recent advertising campaign carries the game into the slums of the United States, has on its books a middle-class youth who behaves like a child of the ghetto.

If it is hard to feel sympathy for Rios; one can certainly understand him better than merely believing the bad-boy image conferred by a media largely starved of the concept since the retirement of John McEnroe. Rios, who had no childhood tennis heroes, says of his formative years: "When I was a kid, I didn't like tennis. I live in a country club where my friends used to play tennis, so that's why I started. I don't remember when I played the national tournaments or even when I started playing outside my country. I didn't even know what the [ATP] Tour was."

Thus, Rios cannot comprehend the scale of his achievement. Great tennis players were no great shakes to him, so why should anyone be interested in his meteoric career? He was recently moved to see the joy that his visit brought to a Chilean wheelchair-bound child — he did not realise that it could mean so much.

Perhaps Rios's greatest crime is to speak his mind, one free from the suffocating influence of political correctness. Of Lindsay Davenport's claim that a world No 1 was not a true leader until he won a grand-slam tournament, which Rios has yet to do, he retorted: "Winning a grand slam with girls is a different thing, so they can be No 1 really easy. It's really tough for guys. It's not like that for girls, [who can] win as many grand slams as they like." If that view is almost certainly shared by several male players, none will volunteer it on the record.

Less open to speculation is his ability on the court. A left-hander standing 5ft 9in, he has overcome his lack of height through supreme shot selection and heavy disguise. Although he surprised Agassi with his mastery of angles and spin, he was equally content to lock horns with the renowned baseliner. The two behaved like rutting stags until a wounded Agassi backed away. His demeanour offered definitive proof that this self-confessed thrower of matches has exorcised his humiliating defeat by Petr Korda in the final of the Australian Open two months ago.

Only Ivan Lendl also reached No 1 in the world without first winning a grand-slam title — and he went on to capture eight. Rios must now address that anomoly, starting at the French Open in June. Given that he was weaned on the clay courts of Santiago and that he is demonstrably the man in form, few would bet against him on the red clay of Roland Garros. Those who question his status could be in for a rude awakening.

TOP 20

ATP RANKINGS: 1, M Rios (Chile) 3,645pts; 2, P Sampras (US) 3,600; 3, P Korda (Cz) 3,443; 4, P Rafter (Aus) 3,211; 5, G Rusedski (GB) 3,094; 6, Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 3,027; 7, A Correjta (Sp) 2,703; 8, J Bjorkman (Swe) 2,663, 9, R Krajicek (Hol) 2,308, 10, G Kuerten (Br) 2,262; 11, M Chang (US) 2,200; 12, K Kucera (Slovakia) 2,141; 13, F Mantilla (Sp) 2,108; 14, C Pioline (Fr) 1,860; 15, T Henman (GB) 1,847; 16, M Philippoussis (Aus) 1,767; 17, C Moyà (Sp) 1,685; 18, A Berasategui (Sp) 1,637; 19, S Bruguera (Sp) 1,610; 20, T Enqvist (Swe) 1,574.

TELEVISION CHOICE

A different kind of battle

Changing Rooms
BBC1, 8.00pm

It is easy to mock this makeover show, and the giggling Carol Smillie who presents it, but since moving from BBC2 to BBC1 *Changing Rooms* has doubled its audience and now pulls in more than ten million viewers. You suspect that many of them are hoping that just for once the premise of the show, that neighbours can redecorate each other's rooms and still remain on speaking terms, will collapse in acrimony if not in litigation. Amazingly, this has still to happen. Tonight the programme comes from Aberdeenshire where Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen turns a functional family room into a panelled, primrose parlour and Linda Barker converts a floral bedroom into a boudoir in striking blue with a tartan-draped four-poster knocked up from plumbing accessories. As ever, "handy" Andy gives his DIY assistance but, as always, will the owners like what they see?

Kavanagh QC
ITV, 8.30pm

Not for the first time the legal series has a script by Charles Wood, one of television's most distinguished writers with credits including the unforgettable Falklands drama, *Tumbledown*. Wood slips easily into the *Kavanagh* format, exploiting the humour which invariably surrounds Nicholas Jones's unctuous, accident-prone Jeremy, while offering a courtroom battle made of sterner stuff as Kavanagh (John Thaw) defends a woman (Lynda Steadman) who killed her violent husband. There is also a first appearance by an abrasive young barrister played by Rebecca Front and the hint of a new companion for the widowed Kavanagh. It says much for Wood's writing that what is usually the weakest part of the show, Kavanagh's private life, is handled with some depth and delicacy.

Reputations Special: Yuri Gagarin
BBC2, 9.00pm

This portrait of the first man in space devotes as much footage to his life after his tremendous deed as before it, showing that the man who was a hero in the Soviet Union and mobbed throughout the world found his sudden fame a burden from which he never escaped. After his historic 108-minute flight in April 1961 he did not go into space again, and failed to find any fulfilling role. His last years were marked by heavy drinking and he died in a plane crash at 34. All of which is a long way from the public Gagarin, the farm labourer's son with the appealing smile who symbolised a freer and happier Soviet Union. He was chosen for the first manned space flight specifically because of his background. His family had no idea what he was up to and first heard about his feat on the radio.



Pat and Derek (ITV, 10.40pm)

A Wedding, a Crisis and 600 Children
ITV, 10.40pm

Never one to abandon a good human story, Desmond Wilcox presents his fourth television film about Pat Kerr, the former British Airways stewardess who devotes her spare time to an orphanage in Bangladesh. The country has become her second home and she has chosen it for her wedding to Derek Palmer, a businessman she met while at BA. The ceremony, conducted by the Anglican Bishop of Dhaka in front of her family, friends and 600 children who know her as "Pat Mummy", forms the centrepiece of the film. But it also recaps on how Kerr came across the orphanage when she was flying to Bangladesh for BA and decided to stay and help. She is now an occupational therapist at a London hospital but thinks nothing of flying 7,000 miles to Bangladesh for a long weekend. Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Kaleidoscope
Radio 4, 4.05pm

Kaleidoscope is one of the programmes that will disappear with the new Radio 4 schedules, which is a matter of regret even though the forthcoming evening arts show is probably at a better time. Today the main event is an interview by Tim Marlow with Martin Scorsese, whose latest film, *Kundun*, is the story of the Dalai Lama, not a project that might be expected from the director of *Taxi Driver* and *Raging Bull*. Yet he explains in this interview that "religion has been a lifelong passion. I was fascinated by Tibetan Buddhism since I was eight years old, but I'm a Roman Catholic so I didn't seek it out actively until later on in my life . . . I thought this was a movie that it was worth spending the time to make."

The Fall and Rise of the Airship
Radio 2, 9.30pm

The airship is about to make a comeback. Yes, I know you have read that statement before and can furnish me with at least half a dozen times, dates and occasions on which someone has stood up and announced the renaissance of the airship, but this time . . . well, this time is probably the same as all the other times but entertaining to contemplate nonetheless. Ray Gosling presents this history of the airship, which always seemed such a good idea and, to the enthusiasts he interviews here, still is a good idea. The airship had several public relations setbacks between the world wars, notably the R101 and Hindenburg disasters, and this programme gives a graphic account of those incidents using audio recordings from the time. Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley. Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Chris Moyles 4.00 Dave Pearce. Includes 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.30 The Evening Session 8.30 Digital Update with Rachel Reynard 8.40 John Peel. Includes Clinic in session 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Charlie Jordan 4.00 Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Kan Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Alex Lester 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 James Galway: Encore! 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 Larry Adler's Century 9.30 The Fall and Rise of the Airship. See Choice 10.30 Mo Duda 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Annie Othen

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Roscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Includes coverage of the Uefa Cup semi-finals, first leg and Bolton v Arsenal and Wimbledon v Newcastle in the Premiership 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Caimin Jones 7.00 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Robin Banks 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Ray Cokes 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Kirsty Young with Bill Overton 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Raeburn 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins 5.00 The Early Show

WORLD SERVICE

7.00am News 7.15 Insight 7.30 Your Brain Changes Shape 8.00 News 8.15 Off The Shelf 8.30 Pop Science 9.00 News; (648 only) News in German 9.10 Pause for Thought 9.15 Concert Hall 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Beyond the Millennium 10.30 Literature Film: Brave New World 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 On Screen 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Your Brain Changes Shape 1.00 News; (648 only) News in German 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Health Matters 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack Hit List 4.00 News 4.05 Sports Roundup 4.15 Westway 4.30 The Greenfield Collection; (648 only) News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 6.00 News 6.15 Insight 6.30 Seeing Stars; (648 only) News in German 6.45 Sports Roundup 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Onsi Planet 8.00 News 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Pause for Thought 8.30 Megamix 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Meridian Live 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Insight 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.05am Outlook 12.30 Megamix 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 The Farming World 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Discovery 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Meridian Live 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 The World Today 5.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Breakfast with Bailey. Nick Bailey presents music for the morning 8.00 Henry Kelly. Includes the Hall of Fame Hour, the Classic Masterpiece, the Record of the Week and a recipe for eggs Florentine from Michael Barry 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Markham introduces listeners' favourite music 2.00pm Concerto. Field (Piano Concerto No 6 in C) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Includes Afternoon Romance and Continuous Classics 6.30 Newsnight with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. Presented by John Brunning 9.00 Evening Concert. Haydn (Cello Concerto No 1 in C; Trio No 3 in G; Keyboard Sonata No 38 in F; String Quartet in D; Symphony No 15 in D) 11.00 Mann at Night. Music for the early hours 2.00am Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am **On Air**, with Petroc Trelawny, Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascending); Mozart (Serenade in B flat, Gran Partita); Debussy (Deux Arabesques)
9.00 **Masterworks**, with Peter Hobday. Gershwin (Cuban Overture); Rachmaninov (Etudes-tableaux); Ibert (Quatre chansons de Don Quichotte); Tchaikovsky (Souvenirs de Florence)
10.30 **Artist of the Week: Elly Ameling** (2/5)
11.00 **Sound Stories: Saga — The Kalevala**. Includes Sibelius (Luonnotar; Kerelia Suite; Pohjola's Daughter; Kyllikki) (2/5)
12.00 **Composer of the Week: James MacMillan**
1.00pm **The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert: BBC Proms Chamber Music 97**. The last of eight lunchtime chamber music concerts given at the Victoria and Albert Museum during last summer's BBC Proms. Joan Rodgers, soprano, Roger Vignoles, piano. Schubert (An Silvia; Die Abgebluhte Linden; Die Manner sind meichant; Nacht und Traume; Gretchen am Spinnrade); Liszt (Die Loreley; Es muss ein Wunderbares sein; S'il est un charmant gazon; Oh! Quand je dors); Britten (Le roi s'en va-t'en chasse; Il est quelqu'un sur terre; La belle est au jardin d'amour; La fileuse; Quand j'etais chez Mon Pere, Folk song arrangements, volume two) (r)
2.00 **The BBC Orchestras**. BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Tadaaki Otaka and Mark Wigglesworth, with Jon Kimura Parker, piano. Stravinsky (Circus Polka); Glazunov (Symphony No 1); Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 2 in C minor); Prokofiev (Symphony No 1, Classical); Stravinsky (Suite: The Firebird)
4.00 **Voices: Handel Voices** (r)
4.45 **Music Machine**, with Verity Sharp
5.00 **In Tune**, with Sean Rafferty
7.30 **Performance on 3: Light as Leaves of Gold**. Live from the Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire. Emma Kirkby, soprano, Anthony Rooley, lute. A recital of English lute songs by Robert Jones, Anthony Holborne and John Danyel
8.10 **A Sound Read**. Ivan Hewett reviews the latest books on music with Germaine Greer and Dennis Marks 8.30 **Concert**, part two. Includes works by Campion, Dowland and Ferrabosco
9.15 **Postscript: Writing Between the Bar Lines**. Philip Dodd talks to Peter Ackroyd, Alison Lurie and Rose Tremain (2/4)
9.40 **BBC Philharmonic**, under Adrian Leaper. With Martin Roscoe, piano. Lutoslawski (Piano Concerto; Symphony No 3)
10.45 **Night Waves**. Richard Coles examines the legacy of Noël Coward's songs
11.30 **Composers of the Week: Louis and Francois Couperin**, with Paul Guinery (r)
12.30am **Jazz Notes**. Digby Fairweather presents a three-part concert celebrating the jazz trumpet alongside Kenny Baker, Bruce Adams and Guy Parker. With Julian Stringle, tenor sax, alto sax, clarinet, Malcolm Earle Smith, trombone, Brian Lemon, piano, Dave Gree, double bass, Bobby Worth, drums
1.00 **Through the Night**

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) **Shipping Forecast** 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News** 9.05 **Call Robin Lustig**: 0171-580 4444
10.00 **News: First Prize a Cabbage**. Edward Enfield presents a tour of his home town, Wisborough Green in West Sussex
10.00 (LW) **News: Daily Service**
10.15 (LW) **On These Days**
10.30 **Woman's Hour**, with Jenni Murray and guests
11.30 **Medicine Now**, with Geoff Watts
12.00 **News; You and Yours**, with John Waite
12.25pm **Word of Mouth: The People's Laodcon**. Russell Davies presents a special edition of the programme which explores the use, and abuse, of contemporary English, as raised by listeners 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**, with Nick Clarke
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **Books and Company**. Presented by John Walsh. In the last of the series, two listeners conduct a review of audiobooks. And do CD-Roms make language-learning quicker than a combination of books and tapes? (r)
2.30 **Let's Dance!** The last of four programmes about partygoing since the Edwardian era takes a look at how present-day parties compare with the balls of the past (r)
3.00 **News; The Afternoon Shift**, with Daire Brehan
4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope**. Tim Marlow talks to the film producer and director Martin Scorsese. See Choice
4.45 **Short Story: The Midnight Milkman**, by Helene Wiggin, read by Paul Copley
5.00 **PM**, with Chris Lowe and John Sopel 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** 6.30 **Paradise Lost in Cyberspace**. Last in a six-part comedy series by Colin Swash. With Stephen Moore, Patsy Byrne and Geoffrey McGivern (6/6)
7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**
7.20 **File on 4**, with Jenny Cuffe
8.00 **Science Now**. Peter Evans presents a weekly review of discoveries and developments (r)
8.30 **Crimescapes: Colin Bateman**. Leslie Forbes talks to the crime writer from Bangor, Co Down, about his award-winning black comedy, *Divorcing Jack* (6/6)
9.00 **In Touch**. Peter White with news, views and information for visually impaired people
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: The Great Gatsby**, by F. Scott Fitzgerald; abridged by Neville Teder and read by Sam Robards (7/10) (r)
11.00 **Mediumwave**. The week's events in the media (r)
11.30 (LW) **Today in Parliament**
11.30 **Silicon Sex of a Virtual Nature**, by G.W. Fraser. A high-tech love story with Lorelei King and Mark Straker
12.00 **News** 12.30am **The Late Book: Moscow Mule**. Written and read by James Young (2/5)
12.48 **Shipping Forecast**
1.00 **As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

SAILING

Smith rues his bad luck

BY EDWARD GORMAN
SAILING CORRESPONDENT

AS THE rest of the Whitbread Round the World Race fleet continued trailing into Fort Lauderdale yesterday, Lawrie Smith, of Great Britain, skipper of the leg six winner, *Silk Cut*, was reflecting on his long overdue victory.

While highlighting the better working relationship he is enjoying with his new navigator, Vincent Geake, Smith also underlined his belief that his boat is quick — possibly the quickest in the fleet — and that leg wins have always been there for the taking. Simple bad luck, he believes, has played a big part in *Silk Cut*'s poor showing in the first half of the race.

"We always knew we could beat *EF Language*; we just have not had the luck in past legs," Smith said. "It's not just about beating one boat, it's about coming in ahead of the whole fleet. We were determined to prove that we could beat the opposition and the crew has been utterly dedicated to pushing the boat as hard as possible.

"Vincent Geake and I worked very well together and once we'd picked the right route, it was just a matter of getting the boat-speed. I am convinced that we have the fastest boat in the fleet and this time we made the right moves at the right time and got the result we deserved."

Smith's right-hand man on *Silk Cut*, Gordon Maguire, the watch leader, is not ruling out a top three overall finish for the British boat.

"The success we have achieved since leaving Brazil has given us confidence for the remainder of the race," he said. "We desperately needed a good result on this leg and so we're happy with a first."

Fort Lauderdale may prove to be a fairly decisive point in determining the overall winner. Paul Cayard, skipper of *EF Language*, with finishing positions of first, fifth, first, fourth, first and second, is starting to look unbeatable and other skippers are, for the first time, acknowledging that nothing short of a sinking can stop Cayard now.

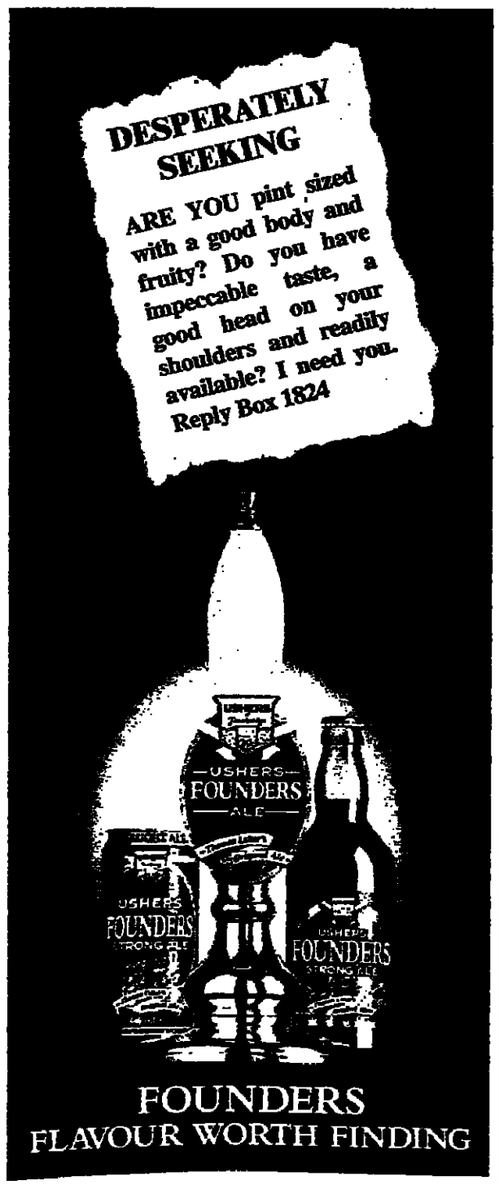
Grant Dalton, skipper of *Merit Cup*, who finished leg six in fifth position and is now third overall, said: "We needed to win this leg but we have to be philosophical about it. *EF Language* has the whole thing in the bag now, barring accidents — we are now chasing for second and third position overall."

Gunnar Krantz, whose *Swedish Match* lies second overall, said: "Before this leg started we had a strong determination to finish ahead of *EF Language* and still had a chance to pull back the points. Now one leg of the four remaining has gone — it will be very, very hard unless something strange should happen. It is not impossible. We need outside help from some bigger source."

Meanwhile, out on the course, Fort Lauderdale hosted one of the closest finishes of the race yesterday when *Chessie Racing*, skippered by John Kostecki, got in just three minutes ahead of Paul Standbridge's *Toshiba* after 4,730 miles of racing. Kostecki's sixth place keeps George Collins's privately-funded boat in fourth overall, while *Toshiba* slips to seventh.



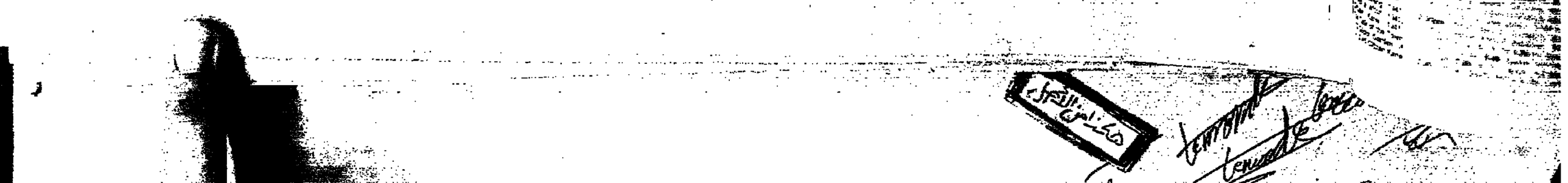
Smith: has dedicated crew



Answers from page 47

FLEHMEN
(b) A grimace made by cats with extra olfactory and well developed Jacobsen organs.
RUNAGATES
(a) The best use in English occurs in Psalm LXVIII in the *Prayer Book*. The psalmist exhorts God into belligerence, but by verse 6 describes the formation of alliances. "But letteth the runagates continue in scarceness."
CALANDRIA
(b) The heating element in an evaporator or pan for milking.
SHAMISEN
(c) A 17th-century Nipponese lute.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1. Qh7+! Kxh7; 2. Rxg7+! Rxg7; 3. Nf6+ Kg6; 4. Bh5 checkmate.



Neighbourliness: is that next to impossible?

It must be unsettling having a neighbour who makes your life a misery, who bad-mouths you, makes false accusations, who covets your metaphorical oxen, and who accuses you of being deceitful: but Tony Blair is far from the only person who has trouble with the chap with whom he shares a party wall. That might be why **Panorama** (BBC1) last night joined the fashion for making programmes about antisocial neighbours, following hard on the heels of *Neighbours from Hell* and *Neighbours at War*. This trend is running parallel to television's current appetite for programmes about thirtysomethings, especially female thirtysomethings (the trend continues with tomorrow's *Modern Times*, called *Friends*). The more enterprising programme-makers must already be working on a documentary about the hell of living next door to a demanding thirtysomething woman, who keeps the street awake at night with the screaming fits she has with her difficulty in "juggling it over her difficulty in "juggling it all", "having it all", or even "having anyone to juggle with at all".

A recurring problem with all these "neighbours from hell" projects on television is that they give every appearance of wanting to find a solution to the crisis. But in their ratings-conscious hearts, many yearn for a sort of Jerry Springer spectacular in which (with luck) their intervention provides the spark that ignites the animosity and brings the warring neighbours to blows. *Panorama*'s honorable figleaf for entering this arena was investigating the impact of the 1996 Housing Act, which has given local councils greater powers to evict antisocial council tenants who — like the bad apple in a barrel — make life rotten for everyone on the estate. But why has it taken so long for the Government to do anything about this nightmare? And what does eviction achieve other than catapulting those problem neighbours into another council's backyard?

Even the Church of England has now joined this circus, with news over the weekend that it has put up £18,000 to find a family of "super neighbours" willing to live on a crime-ridden housing estate in Newcastle upon Tyne. The idea is that once the "super neighbours" arrive, they will set a noble example for others to follow, and that the other residents of the 300-home estate will drop by for tea and chats. But they might just as easily drop by to size up what their new "super neighbours" have that is worth nicking.

Aren't the councils and the Church tackling the problem from the wrong direction? Why not transplant a family of louts to the heart of a swanky, middle-class area full of barristers, Harley Street consultants, City financiers and Cabinet ministers? You can bet that new laws to tackle nuisance neighbours will be whizzing through Parliament faster than a brick through a bedroom window. Remember how swiftly Margaret Thatcher sorted out Nigel Lawson, and John Major Norman Lamont, once irritation set in over the garden fence? Gordon Brown might be heading the same way.

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

On the other hand, you could just milk the phenomenon for all it was worth and bring out the *Neighbours from Hell Cookbook*, commemorating meals you have had ruined by interruptions from next door, or the poisons you would like to seep into your neighbours' supper. It wouldn't be any more or any less tasteful than the book of *Titanic* recipes published last year, or than the **Mafia Cookbook** which Channel 4 is bringing us as an appetiser to its forthcoming gangster season. Last night's recipe, the first of four going out this week, was for Fettucine Giuliano, made with sausage, red wine, ham and tomatoes. Salvatore Giuliano loved it. He was a Sicilian mobster who was big in the 1940s around Palermo, until he was murdered by a cousin at the age of 26. Salvatore's nephew, who took us through the recipe, says his uncle was just a modern Robin Hood, stealing from the rich to help the poor. His Sicilian neighbours obviously didn't see it that way: the State, the local police and the Mafia were apparently all eager to help Giuliano's cousin in his mission to make absolutely sure that Salvatore was Nomore.

There has been a lot of genuine interaction between rich and poor in **Our Mutual Friend** (BBC2) over the past four weeks, too. But it was not so much Dickens's moralising voice that has made this series shimmer in the schedules, as the fact that even the smallest parts were given the same attention as the biggest ones. Pam Ferris and Peter Vaughan almost stole the show as Mr and Mrs Boffin. Timothy Spall's Mr Venus sparkled like a gem, the different facets of his personality catching the light as he twinkled from decency to evil and then back again. Kenneth Cranham's Silas Wegg was so odious you would happily have kicked his one good leg from under him had John Harmon not already done the job for you. Destined for doom, David Morrissey's Bradley Headstone metamorphosed before our eyes into a man even more twisted and tormented than the subject of a Francis Bacon painting.

Heart attacks can also leave you more twisted than a Bacon figure. Adam Faith's **Heart** (BBC1), the first of two programmes urging us to look after our ticker, left an ache in my chest. But it also left me intrigued by how the onset of angina at the age of 46 changed the life of Piers Marten, a hard-working-hard-playing man with his own advertising agency. He told us, for example, that having to break off during sex to apply his glycerine spray was a passion-killer. But doesn't that depend on where you spray the glycerine?

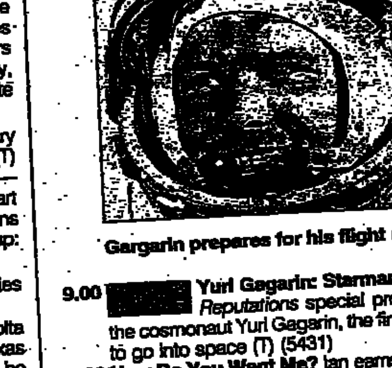
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (70054)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (74528)
9.00 Good Living (6498685)
9.25 Kilroy (T) (2647832)
10.05 Style Challenge (5469615)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (9625031)
10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (1293073)
11.35 Real Rooms (1694493)
12.00 News (T) and weather (8027493)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (5685948)
12.35 Wipeout (2510832)
1.00 News (T) and weather (77615)
1.30 Regional News (T) (54290832)
1.40 The Weather Show (66588431)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (72450702)
2.10 Ironside (r) (6498801)
3.00 Lion Country Eight problematic Tanzanian pelicans arrive and eccentric Lord Bath spills the beans on his criteria for potential "wifelets" (1528)
3.30 Wiggly Park (2622801) **3.35** Playdays (7513035) **3.55** Chucklewood Critters. Last in series (7517851) **4.20** Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde(1718948) **4.35** The Really Wild Show. Last in series (T) (5349851) **5.00** Newsround (T) (9667290) **5.10** Grange Hill (T) (3334171)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (876509)
6.00 News (T) and weather (685)
6.30 Regional News (T) (615)
7.00 Holiday. Ross Kelly at Disney's new Animal Kingdom theme park, David Soul sailing in Salcombe and Sankha Guha in northern Portugal. Toyah Willcox sets off for a family holiday in Majorca and John Holdsworth tries out a budget break in Yorkshire (T) (3509)
7.30 EastEnders Alex confides his doubts to Kathy (T) (899)
8.00 **Changing Rooms** Neighbours in Aberdeenshire get the *Changing Rooms* treatment (T) (2257)
8.30 Wildlife on One: Crowned Lemurs David Attenborough narrates this documentary charting the fortunes of a group of lemurs (T) (1764)
9.00 News (T) and weather (5948)
9.30 One Foot in the Grave The trials and tribulations of a sleepless night plague poor Victor — and naturally, he makes sure that Margaret and the neighbours must share in his suffering. Comedy, starring Richard Wilson and Annette Crosbie (r) (T) (90493)
10.00 Heart Adam Faith looking at coronary heart disease and heart attacks (2/2) (T) (85073) **WALES: 10.00** Give it a Try — Before You Die! (433870) **10.15** Heart (260073) **10.45** Premier Passions (414238) **11.35** FAW Invitation Cup: Bangor City v Newtown (347412)
10.30 Premier Passions Last in series (133851)
11.25 Urban Cowboy (1980) John Travolta plays an oil refinery worker in Texas whose macho antics as a would-be rodeo rider put a strain on his marriage. Directed by James Bridges (38282580)
1.30am Weather (4697449)
1.35 BBC News 24

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BBC2

6.10am Scotland in the Enlightenment (8745012) **6.35** Rodin (1135509)
7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (7556870)
7.15 Teletubbies (r) (5566561) **7.40** Captain Caveman (r) (6161035) **8.00** Blue Peter (r) (T) (89899) **8.30** The Secret Life of Toys (r) (6923141) **8.45** The Record (3592141) **9.10** The Cry of the Beluga(5498238) **10.00** Teletubbies (37509)
10.30 Big Parade of Comedy (1964, b/w) Compilation from the golden age of MGM comedy (23325)
12.00 See Hear! (r) (T) (82986) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (18899) **1.00** Fireman Sam (r) (47414431) **1.10** The Art and Antiques Hour (7081219) **2.10** Ghosts of Christmas Past: nuclear tests in the 1950s (22427344) **2.40** News (T) (9888580) **2.45** Westminster (T) (4761412) **3.25** News (T) (1157783) **3.30** Gardening from Scratch (493)
4.00 Change That (r) (4376431) **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (4346290) **4.55** Esther: Miscarriages of Justice (8446412) **5.30** Today's the Day (764)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air with Will Smith (r) (165306)
6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (798108)
7.10 The O Zone 911, Howie B and Rebbie Jackson (369580)
7.30 From the Edge Holidays for the disabled; home-swaps for people with modified houses; plus: the effects of the quarantine laws on those who depend on assistance dogs (T) (141)
8.00 Trust Me, I'm a Doctor The scientific background to spiritual healing; how touch can help intensive care babies; a cow-derived treatment for cancer. Last in series (T) (4829)
8.30 Food and Drink Antonio Carluccio cooks for sculptor Eduardo Paolozzi; pear and dried fruit crisp with mascarpone cream; new bottled beers. Last in series (T) (9306)

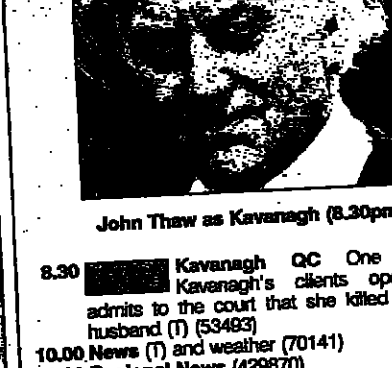


Gargarin prepares for his flight (9pm)

9.00 **Yuri Gagarin: Starman** *Reputations* special profile of the cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first man to go into space (T) (5431)
10.00 How Do You Want Me? Ian earns a few Brownie points (T) (83615)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (399580)
11.15 Seinfeld Last in series (T) (164431)
11.40 The Larry Sanders Show. Phil makes a new female writer's life a misery. Last in series (T) (452493)
11.55 Weather (633431) **12.00** The Midnight Hour (98994)
12.30am Learning Zone: Free Body Diagrams (82081) **1.00** Diagrams (18842) **1.30** Sensing Intelligence (30352) **2.00** Science 1 — Physics (42333) **4.00** The New Get By in Spanish (60975) **5.00** Career Moves (9772642) **5.45** The Census (65081)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4219238)
9.25 This Morning (T) (8482870)
9.30 Vanessa: Alcoholic mothers (T) (3166702)
10.10 This Morning (T) (98579219)
12.20pm Your Shout (8032325)
12.25 Regional News (8031696)
12.30 News (T) and weather (27275)
1.00 Shortland Street (62783)
1.30 Home and Away (T) (77716)
2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5889238)
2.45 Waffle (T) (288031)
3.15 News (T) (1155325)
3.20 Regional News (1152238)
3.25 Potamus Park (1135561) **3.35** Wizadora (r) (5389798) **3.45** Paddington Bear (r) (9377734) **3.50** Rupert (r) (7510948) **4.15** Extreme Ghostbusters (T) (1483509) **4.40** Wavelength (T) (9253783)
5.10 WALES: The Electric Chair (2305870)
5.10 What's My Line? (r) (2305870)
5.40 News (T) and weather (775431)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (152832)
6.25 Wales Tonight (T) and weather (373054)
6.25 Regional Weather (793238)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (783)
7.00 Emmerdale Pollard's plan to romance Dee goes awry (T) (8577)
7.30 WALES: James's Journal: Swansea (967)
7.30 People and Pets from Cadbury Garden Centre (T) (967)
8.00 The Bill: Bad Feelings A criminal known for his eye for the ladies comes under Boulton's scrutiny (T) (7325)



John Thaw as Kavanagh (8.30pm)

8.30 **Kavanagh QC** One of Kavanagh's clients openly admits to the court that she killed her husband (T) (53493)
10.00 News (T) and weather (70141)
10.30 Regional News (429870)
10.40 **A Wedding, a Crisis and 600 Children** Desmond Wilcox narrates this follow-up to the story of Pat Kerr, the British Airways stewardess, who inspired her colleagues to rescue and rebuild an orphanage in Bangladesh (T) (147054)
11.40 WALES: Charlie Grace (196815)
11.40 Swift Justice (448580)
12.35am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (4338739)
1.05 The Fashion Police (r) (T) (2894178)
1.40 Champions' League Special (r) (T) (8042352)
2.10 The Hi-Jackers (1963, b/w) Crime drama with Anthony Booth. Directed by Jim O'Connolly (7504178)
3.25 Football Extra (r) (6835178)
4.20 ITV Nightscreen (1893772)
5.30 News (93449)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
1.00pm A Country Practice (62783)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1636528)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2305870)
6.25-7.00 Central News (373054)
7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (967)
11.40 Renegade (448580)
12.35am Movie Club (4338739)
1.05 The Fashion Police (2894178)
3.15 League Extra (6844626)
4.10 Central Jobfinder '98 (1804888)
5.20 Asian Eye (4875159)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except.
12.15pm-12.30 Illuminations (6220122)
1.00 Emmerdale (62783)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1636528)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2305870)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (13344)
7.30-8.00 Wild West Country (967)
11.40 Charlie Grace (196615)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.15-12.30 News and Weather (6220122)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2305870)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (431)
6.30-7.00 The Hotel (783)
7.30-8.00 Quids In (967)
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (196615)
5.00am Freescreen (70994)

ANGLIA

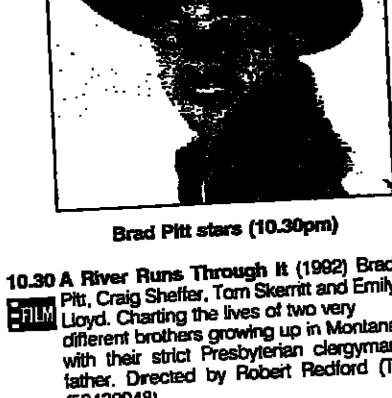
As HTV West except:
1.00-1.30 Surprise Chefs (62783)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2305870)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (373054)
7.30-8.00 A Place in the Country (967)
11.40 Highlander (196615)

S4C

Starts: **6.00am Sesame Street** (63764)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (67238)
9.00 FILM: The Rake's Progress (52348325)
11.15 Excursion . . . (9145509)
11.30 Powerhouse (2851)
12.00pm Montel Williams (77054)
12.30 Sesame Street (27257)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (47490851)
1.15 Y Blobs (47495306)
1.30 FILM: The Raid (26412)
3.00 Australia Wild (4238)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (561)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (696)
4.30 Countdown (550)
5.00 5 Pump (9783)
5.30 Howard Goodall's Choir Works (832)
6.00 Newyddion 6 (523306)
6.10 Heno (114238)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (522572)
7.25 Glangwili (217344)
8.00 Y Sloe Gelf (5967)
8.30 Newyddion (7702)
9.00 O Flaen Dy Lygaid (7899)
10.00 Brookside (248122)
10.35 FILM: In the Best Interests of the Children (27765431)
12.20am Slap! Love, Lies and Lipstick (6985587)
12.50 Gas (4325265)
1.20 Diwedd (27709333)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (63764)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (67238)
9.00 The Rake's Progress (b/w, 1945) Comedy drama about a Thirties playboy on the road to ruin but who turns into a war hero. With Rex Harrison, Margaret Johnson and Lilli Palmer. Directed by Sidney Gilliat (52348325)
11.15 Excursion to the Bridge of Friendship (9145509) **11.30** Powerhouse (T) (2851) **12.00** Sesame Street (77054) **12.30pm** I Dream of Jeannie (27257) **1.00** Baby Baby (60325) **1.30** Lion (66582257)
1.35 Three Hats for Lisa (1965) Musical comedy starring Joe Brown and Sid James about a docker and a taxidriver who help a film star to steal three hats. Directed by Sidney Hayers (68068290)
3.30 Collectors' Lot featuring a bra-collecting blacksmith and items made from human skin (T) (561) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (696) **4.30** Countdown (T) (5333290) **4.55** Ricki Lake (T) (6431580) **5.30** Pet Rescue. Following Ginger, a horse whose leg was broken by an iron bar (T) (832)
6.00 Late Lunch New series of what used to be *Light Lunch*. Mel Giedroyc and Sue Sue Perkins's first guest is Ruby Wax (T) (883)
6.30 Hollyoaks (325)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (690528)
7.55 Mafia Cookbook Pasta pie, a Sicilian starter (153141)
8.00 Brookside Susannah is devastated when she learns she will not be present at the birth of Jacqui's baby. Ron has to leave the bungalow (T) (120883)
8.30 Planet Football Live coverage of the Uefa Cup semi-final between Athletico Madrid and Lazio of Rome. Both sides boast an array of international talent, including the Italian striker Christian Vieri who lines up for Madrid against his rival for a place in the Italian team Peirluigi Casirahgi (85456561



Brad Pitt stars (10.30pm)

10.30 A River Runs Through It (1992) Brad Pitt, Craig Sheffer, Tom Skerritt and Emily Lloyd. Charting the lives of two very different brothers growing up in Montana with their strict Presbyterian clergyman father. Directed by Robert Redford (T) (59430948)
12.50 Buck and the Preacher (1972) starring and directed by Sidney Poitier. A group of former slaves, freed after the Civil War, are under constant threat of attack by rednecks. Also stars Harry Belafonte (545555)
2.50 Dispatches (r) (T) (1313420)
3.55 Interlude (1968) with Barbara Ferris and Oskar Werner. Remake of the 1958 film of the same name about a reporter who is drawn to a married orchestra conductor. The tale is reset in the Swinging London of the 1960s. Directed by Kevin Billington (921062)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (8796344)
7.00 WideWorld (T) (5979528) **7.30** Milkshake! (6730325) **7.35** Wimzie's House (r) (4217528) **8.00** Havakazoo (r) (1942832) **8.30** Dappledown Farm (r) (1974431)
9.00 Espresso (5372967) **10.00** Hairy Hunters (r) (T) (1429126) **10.30** Sunset Beach (T) (5056580) **11.10** Leeza (2842851)
12.00 5 News (T) (1952219) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (6813967) **1.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (5978899) **1.30** Sons and Daughters (6812238) **2.00** Burke's Law (2000735) **3.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (6544342)
3.30 Mother of the Bride (1992) Third in a series of family comedies with Rue McClanahan as the matriarch of a manic family and Ted Shackleford as her much younger husband. Directed by Charles Correll (3729764)
5.30 The Great House Game (r) (T) (7898431)
6.00 100 Per Cent (7895344)
6.30 Family Affairs Nick thinks that Pete and Roy are responsible for his beating (T) (7886696)
7.00 5 News (T) (1499293)
7.30 Hairy Hunters The story of the mink, from its introduction into Britain to its escape into the wild (T) (7875580)
8.00 The Great Garden Game Clare Bradley and Toby Buckland present the gardening challenge show from the grounds of Harewood House. This week the teams create a woodland effect on a dry informal slope (T) (5194801)
8.30 What's the Story? (6449798)
9.00 The Sweeney (8197431)
10.00 The Morwenna Banks Show Comic sketches from the former star of *Absolutely* (1953948)



Chat with Jerry Sadowitz (10.30pm)

10.30 The People vs Jerry Sadowitz Outrageous talk show (1962696)
11.00 The Jack Docherty Show (5550621)
11.40 Movie Cafe (4105561)
12.15am Major League Baseball — Live Todd Macklin introduces the action from the game between the Cleveland Indians and the Seattle Mariners (23136888)
4.45 Monsters (81832159)
5.05 Throb (r) (76709555)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9272888)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY 1

7.00am Street Sharks (92948) **7.30** Games World (7819528) **7.45** Simpsons (22344) **8.15** Oprah (8842870) **9.00** Hotel (44141) **10.00** Another World (14257) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (13431) **12.00** Married with Children (95108) **12.30pm** MASH (27561) **1.00** Geraldo (56344) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (87528) **3.00** Jenny Jones (41677) **4.00** Oprah (53412) **5.00** Star Trek: Next Generation (3389) **6.00** Dream Team (8403) **6.30** Married with Children (1035) **7.00** Simpsons (1257) **7.30** Real TV (7219) **8.00** Rescue Paramedics (7677) **8.30** World's Weirdest TV (9412) **9.00** Close Calls: Cheating Death (69561) **10.00** The Extraordinary (79948) **11.00** Star Trek: Next Generation (64716) **12.00** Late Show (16710) **1.00am** Raven (52951) **2.00** Long Play (2020626)

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800888. Each film costs £2.99 per viewing

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26)
The Portrait of a Lady (1996)
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)
The Crucible (1996)
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)
The English Patient (1996)
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58)
Beautiful Girls (1996)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Stalking Moon (1969) (56702) **8.00 A Dog's Best Friend** (1997) (81580) **10.00 Phenomenon** (1996) (398528) **12.30pm Deadfall** (1968) (379493) **3.00 The Thief Who Came to Dinner** (1973) (85967) **5.00 A Dog's Best Friend** (1997) (14509) **7.00 The Stupids** (1996) (90580) **9.05 Phenomenon** (1996) (22026815) **11.05 Nadja** (1995) (625325) **12.40am Cyberella: Forbidden Passions** (1996) (4903538) **2.10 Mad Love** (1995) (488623) **3.50 To Die For** (1995) (24490933)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.00am I Wake Up Screaming (1941) (42572) **7.30 I Married a Witch** (1942) (8180035) **9.50 Citizen Kane** (1941) (18037306) **10.50 The Talk of the Town** (1942) (63976344) **12.50pm Garden of Evil** (1954) (29990048) **2.45 Citizen Kane** (1941) (858832) **4.45 Mystery Science Theatre 3000: The Movie** (1996) (1661257) **6.00 Project: Alf** (1996) (29832) **8.00 Miami Rhapsody** (1995) (18238) **10.00 Eye for an Eye** (1996) (372561) **11.55 Down, Out and Dangerous** (1995) (294764) **1.30am Devil in a Blue Dress** (1995) (806994) **3.15 Where's Jack?** (1969) (65797535)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Rachel and the Stranger (1948) (3965815) **6.00 Big** (1988) (5824431) **8.00 Anzio** (1968) (5803948) **10.00 Nightmare on Elm Street 3: Dream Warriors** (1987) (4203257) **11.40 Skin Deep** (1989) (4828561) **1.20am Brazil** (1984) (15058468) **3.40 Halloween IV: Return of Michael Myers** (1988) (39786826)

TNT

9.00pm Billy the Kid (1989) (38459509) **11.00 Heaven with a Gun** (1969) (53696615) **1.00am The Best House in London** (1969) (26984333) **3.00 Billy the Kid** (1989) (43060994) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (32580) **7.30** Cycling (86141) **8.30** Sports Centre (62257) **9.00** Racing News (53509) **9.30** Aerobics (81870) **10.00** Spanish Football (78306) **12.00** Aerobics (66073) **12.30pm** Monday Night Football (31967) **2.30** V-Max (9696) **3.00** Bowls: Australia v England (23141) **5.00** Cycling (5764) **6.00** Sports Centre (2275) **6.30** Tartan Extra (1677) **7.00** The Footballers' Football Show (36257) **8.00** Wrestling (36720825) **11.15** Sports Centre (420493) **11.45** Tartan Extra (429764) **12.15am** The Footballers' Football Show (212081) **1.15** Baseball 1998 (218265) **2.15** Sports Centre (441371) **2.45** The Footballers' Football Show (206888) **3.45** Sports Centre (446825) **4.15** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (5389845) **7.30** Sports Centre (5391783) **8.00** Racing News (9548054) **8.30** Fish TV (5385431) **9.30** Football League Review (3913764) **10.00** Football League Review (3933528) **12.00** Bowls: Australia v England (3936528) **12.00** NHL: Colorado v New Jersey (8388344) **2.00pm** Rebel Sports (8378621) **2.30** Football League Review (8909344) **3.00** Spanish Football (8921073) **5.00** Pro Beach Soccer (2823798) **6.00** Sports Unlimited (3932899) **7.00** Sports Centre (1273257) **7.30** Cricket: South Africa v Sri Lanka (8261987) **10.30** Baseball 1998 (5374696) **11.30** NHL Ice Hockey (2187219) **1.30am** Sports Centre (9887159) **2.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Cycling (22826141) **1.00pm** Fish TV (22802561) **2.00** Olympic Series (38198696) **3.00** Wrestling (97846073) **3.30** Ski Prime (25785290) **4.00** NHL: Colorado v New Jersey (97817561) **6.00** Baseball 1998 (22822325) **7.00** Fish TV (38442832) **8.00** Women's Golf: Nabisco Dinah Shore (38462896) **10.00** Superbouts: Curry v Hwang (38474431) **11.00** Rugby Union Classics (88333832) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Olympic Games (46783) **8.00** NASCAR (80948) **9.30** IndyCar (10238) **11.00** Football (75306) **12.30pm** Playlife (87054) **1.00** Diving (33219) **1.30** Sailing (86325) **2.00** Paralympic Games (19580) **4.00** Figure Skating: World Championships — Live (8939122) **10.30** UEFA Cup Semi-Final First Leg (49528) **12.00** Rally (69420) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Never the Twain (2209867) **7.35** Neighbours (1342561) **8.00** Crossroads (9887290) **8.25** EastEnders (2168412) **9.00** The Bill (3567561) **9.30** Howards' Way (1606696) **10.00** Shelley (6319580) **10.30** The Sullivans (3598073) **11.00** Casualty (5035431) **12.00** Crossroads (63777509) **12.25pm** Neighbours (63770696) **12.55** EastEnders (1197677) **1.30** Rosie (8536493) **2.05** 2point4 Children (5757073) **2.45** Stay Lucky (9384493) **3.45** The Bill (3530035) **4.15** Juliet Bravo (81897677) **5.20** EastEnders (2420035) **5.55** Big Break (4698344) **6.30** The Bill (4311141) **7.00** Dad's Army (9122054) **7.40** Rising Damp (4129765) **8.20** Only Fools and Horses (6991325) **9.00** The Detectives (9507412) **9.40** Backup (70909932) **10.45** The Chief (49891829) **11.50** Ironside: Amy Prentiss (6538031) **1.30am** The Equalizer (1940536) **2.20** 100 Years of Horror: Witches (43977517) **2.50** Shopping (97761062)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (1269035) **7.00** O&E! (3645306) **7.30** Coronation St (3657141) **8.00** Blind Date (7911290) **9.00** First Among Equals (5443615) **10.00** Fortune Hunter (3653325) **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (3833561) **12.00** Coronation St (4340412) **12.30pm** Families (7407764) **1.00** Watching (3644877) **1.30** Me & My Girl (7406035) **2.00** All for Love (6216073) **3.00** London's Burning (6983325) **4.00** Hawaii Five-O (6962832) **5.00** Mission: Impossible (9733851) **6.00** Families (5678986) **6.30** Coronation St (5689238) **7.00** Doctor at Large (9734580) **7.30** Bootsie & Snudge (5658122) **8.00** London's Burning (5047306) **9.00** Coronation St (6991344) **9.30** Wheeltappers & Shunters Social Club (7427528) **10.00** Mission: Impossible (5060257) **11.00** Men & Motors (2101306)



Jonathan Pryce in Gilliam's fantasy adventure (Movies Gold, 1.20am)

CARLTON SELECT (CABLE)

5.00pm Blockbusters (97823122) **5.30** Hey Dad !! (25799493) **6.00** Byker Grove (25796306) **6.30** A Country Practice (25710985) **7.00** London Bridge (97843986) **7.30** Our House (25709870) **8.00** Desmond's (97828306) **8.30** Real Life Stories (97831141) **9.00** Demob (38453948) **10.00** Tales from the Hollywood Hills (38456035) **11.00** St Elsewhere (40118493) **12.00** Us and Them (94809438) **12.30am** Tales of the Unexpected (15045325) **1.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Bear in the Big Blue House **6.30** Jungle Cubs **7.00** Mighty Ducks **7.30** Nightmare Ned **7.45** Ned's Newt **8.00** Recess **8.30** Pepper Ann **9.00** New Doug **9.30** Smart Guy **10.00** Student Bodies **10.30** Teen Angel **11.00** Boy Meets World **11.30** Bromerly Love **12.00** Honey, I Shrunk the Kids **12.45pm FILM: The Westing Game** (1997) **2.15** Ned's Newt **2.30** Aladdin: The Series **3.00** Timon and Pumbaa **3.30** Doug **4.00** Pepper Ann **4.30** Recess **5.00** Smart Guy **5.30** Student Bodies **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00 FILM: Ernest Rides Again** (1994) **8.30** The Wonder Years **9.00** Touched by an Angel **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Zeo **6.25** Crazy Crow **6.30** Power Rangers Zeo **7.00** X Men **7.35** Mortal Kombat **8.00** Goosebumps **8.35** Masked Rider **9.00** The Magic Box **9.30** Dudley the Dragon **10.00** Pinocchio **10.30** Peter Pan **11.00** Oliver Twist **11.30** Huckleberry Finn **12.00** Gulliver's Travels **12.30pm** X Men **1.00** Spiderman **1.30** Iron Man **2.00** Fantastic Four **2.25** Adventures of Dodo **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo **3.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs **3.30** Masked Rider **4.00** Life With Louie **4.25** Life With Louie **5.00** Goosebumps **5.30** X Men **6.00** Spiderman **6.30** The Tick **7.00** Close

TCC

6.00am Big Dish **6.30** Oscar's Orchestra **7.00** Spirou **7.30** Dennis the Menace **8.00** Ocean Odyssey **8.30** Spellbinder II **9.00** Road to Avonlea **10.00** AJ's Time Travellers **10.30** Flash Gordon **11.00** Iznogoud **11.30** Gigantor **12.00** Spirou **12.30pm** Oscar's Orchestra **1.00** Spellbinder II **1.30** AJ's Time Travellers **2.00** Iznogoud **2.30** Flash Gordon **3.00** Gigantor **3.30** Big Dish **4.00** Ocean Odyssey **4.30** Dennis the Menace

CARTOON NETWORK

Cartoon favourites from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula **6.30** Ren and Stimpy **7.00** Angry Beavers **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Doug **8.30** Arthur **9.00** CBBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear etc **12.00** Rugrats **12.30pm** Blues Clues **1.00** Clangers **1.30** Muppet Babies **2.00** Fraggle Rock **2.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks **3.00** Jumanji **3.30** Doug **4.00** Hey Arnold! **4.30** Captain Star **5.00** Rugrats **5.30** Sister Sister **6.00** Renford Rejects **6.30** Kenan and Kel

TROUBLE

12.00 Swan's Crossing **12.30pm** Sweat **1.00** Echo Point **1.30** Heartbreak High **2.00** Saved by the Bell **2.30** Swan's Crossing **3.00** It's in the Jeans **3.15** On the Make **3.30** Heartbreak High **4.00** Hollyoaks **4.30** Saved by the Bell **5.00** USA High **5.30** Sweat **6.00** Echo Point **6.30** Bangs **6.45** Rush **7.00** USA High **7.30** Hollyoaks

CHALLENGE TV

6.00pm Fifteen-to-One **6.50** Family Fortunes **6.30** Catchphrase **7.05** Blockbusters **7.30** Give Us a Clue **8.00** All Clued Up **8.30** Whittle **9.15** Sale of the Century **10.00** Treasure Hunt **11.15** 3-2-1 **12.30am** Moonlighting **1.30** Fall Guy **2.30** Boogies Diner **3.00** Snowy River: The McGregor Saga **3.50** Jeux sans Frontières **5.00** Screenshop

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (6163219) **9.00** Tour of Duty (6176783) **10.00** The Basement (3573122) **10.30** Red Shoe Diaries (3582870) **11.00 FILM: Wanted: Dead or Alive** (1987) (3991325) **1.00am** The Basement (2669894) **1.30** Tour of Duty (2651449) **2.30 FILM: Parasite** (1982) (2643420) **4.30** Red Shoe Diaries (2657159) **6.00** The A-Team (2927197)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (4035) **7.30** Roseanne (1431) **8.00** Cybill (3783) **8.30** Caroline in the City (2290) **9.00** Cheers (97870) **9.30** Ellen (70764) **10.00** Frasier (65344) **10.30** Duckman (41764) **11.00** Comedy Network (18515) **11.30** Grace Under Fire (20257) **12.00** Ellen (72994) **12.30am** Nurses (37333) **1.00** Cheers (90371) **1.30** Roseanne (70381) **2.00** Caroline in the City (75623) **2.30** Comedy Network (54130) **3.00** Frasier (87807) **3.30** Duckman (78710) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Quantum Leap (9536412) **9.00** The Cape (9523948) **10.00 FILM: Star Trek: The Motion Picture** (1979) (6785290) **12.30am** Sightings (7876913) **1.00** The Tomorrow People (1950555) **1.30** Flash Gordon — Space Soldiers (8913604) **2.00** Friday the 13th (6086888) **3.00** Tales of the Unexpected (1930791) **3.30** Dark Shadows (4129536) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am The Joy of Painting **10.00** Gardens without Borders **10.30** The Furniture Guys **11.00** Total Fishing with Matt Hayes **11.30** Hometime **12.00** Top Marques **12.30pm** This Old House **1.00** Yan Can Cook **1.30** Antiques Trail **2.00** Homemaker **2.30** The Log Cabin **3.00** Two's Country **3.30** Home Again **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Specials (4318054) **4.30** Disaster (4314238) **5.00** Top Marques (8833621) **5.30** Treasure Hunters (4398290) **6.00** Untamed Amazonia (1818073) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (4433865) **7.30** Ancient Warriors (4315967) **8.00** Discover Magazine (6169493) **9.00** Extreme Machines (6189257) **10.00** Nightfighters (6182344) **11.00** Strike Force: Wellington (5021238) **12.00** Top Guns (8079178) **1.00am** Ancient Warriors (2672468) **1.30** Beyond 2000 (7941197) **2.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Lord of the Animals: The Monkey Player (9783122) **7.30** Outer Bounds: Extreme Climbing (9549764) **8.00** Panama Wild (9462238) **9.00** Lost Kingdom of the Maya (9475702) **10.00** Tides of War (9445561) **11.00** The Amazon Warrior (9368412) **12.00** The Art of the Warrior (1349028) **1.00am** Close

TRAVEL (CABLE)

12.00 Rolf Goes Walkabout **1.00pm** Pathfinders **1.30** The Flavours Of France **2.00** Tread The Med **2.30** Tales From The Flying Sofa **3.00** Railway Adventures Across Europe **3.30** Supercities **4.00** Holiday Maker **5.30** On Tour **6.00** The Flavours Of France **6.30** Tread The Med **7.00** Travel Live **8.00** Stepping The World **8.30** Reel World **9.00** Rolf Goes Walkabout **10.00** Tales From The Flying Sofa **10.30** On The Horizon **11.00** Supercities **11.30** Bruce's American Postcards **12.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Shock Troops (8999832) **5.00** The Moguls (2623798) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (3932899) **7.00** History of the RAF Special: Eagles of the Crown (6145073) **8.00** Close

CARLTON FOOD (CABLE)

9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Food for Thought **10.00** Chef on a Shoestring **10.30** What's Cooking? **11.00** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.30** Graham Kerr's Kitchen **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** Nancy Lam's Wok Wiz **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** Anton Mosimann — Naturally **2.00** So You Think You Can't Cook **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** First Taste **3.30** Worrall Thompson Cooks **4.00** For Better, for Worse **4.30** Seasonal Kitchen **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** Ready, Steady, Cook **9.35** Hart to Hart **10.30** The Young and the Restless **11.20** Brookside **11.50** Jimmy's **12.20pm** Diet Show **12.50** Rescue 911 **1.25** Adrenalin Junkies **2.20** Living It Up! **3.20** Jerry Springer **4.10** Rolonda **5.00** The Heat Is On **5.30** Ready, Steady, Cook **6.10** Jerry Springer **7.00** Rescue 911 **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Jerry Springer **9.00 FILM: Runaway Father** **11.00** The Sex Files **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

6.30am Kanmam Poochi **7.00** Jagran **7.30** ZEE World **8.00** News **8.30** Aahaa **9.00** Endrum Cinema **9.30** ZEE Health Show **10.00** Parwarian **11.00** Shahi Dewar **11.30** Darner **12.00 FILM: Tum Mere Ho** Hasralein **3.30** Sailaab **4.00** ... **4.30** Jaldi Jaldi **5.00** ... Quiz Contest **6.00** ... Pop Busters **7.00** ... **7.30** Chaio ... **9.00** ...



MOTOR RACING 49
Coulthard putting finishing touch to start technique

SPORT

TENNIS 50
Rios takes world domination in his stride



TUESDAY MARCH 31 1998

United board agreed £10m fee

Ferguson put block on Salas signing

BY JASON NISSÉ AND DAVID MADDOCK

ALEX FERGUSON, the Manchester United manager, turned down the chance to sign Marcelo Salas, the Chile striker, despite the club being willing to finance the deal, it emerged yesterday.

Martin Edwards, chairman of the club and chief executive of Manchester United plc, said that the board had agreed a fee of around £10 million for Salas and had approved his personal terms, but Ferguson decided at the last minute that he preferred to stick with Andy Cole.

"The board would have supported buying Salas," Edwards said yesterday, "but as we were reviewing the situation, Cole was knocking in goals for fun. It was an either-or situation. There was no way we could have played both and it was a management decision to stick 'with Cole."

Edwards added that the decision not to sign Salas was made by Ferguson, who had travelled to South America to watch the striker play, even before his performance at Wembley against England. "The deal was more or less done," Edwards said.

Instead, Salas signed for Lazio, the Italian Serie A club, for a fee reported to be £12 million. However, Edwards confirmed yesterday that the fee that Manchester United had agreed was less — around £10 million.

Ferguson and Edwards have worked together for more than ten years and the United chairman stood by the manager during the club's lean spell in the early 1990s when Ferguson came close to resigning as United's poor form took them to the bottom of what was then the first division.

Until Edwards's comments yesterday it was thought that the manager had been desperate to sign Salas, but that the board of the public company had refused to come up with the funds.

The club also revealed yesterday that it has earmarked upwards of £60 million to secure the long-term careers of six of their best young players. Edwards confirmed that Gary and Phil Neville had both signed new, seven-year contracts and that Ryan Giggs last week put pen to paper on a five-year deal. In addition, he said, the United board was at present in negotiations with Paul Scholes, David Beckham and Nicky Butt in an attempt to extend their tenures at the club.

Giggs has signed a contract worth nearly £20,000 a week. The Neville brothers will not earn as much, but their deals would still be worth in excess of £5 million, including bonuses and clauses, over the seven-year term of their contracts.

"We have a commitment to keeping the best young players at this club," Edwards said. "We have signed the Neville brothers and Ryan Giggs signed a new extended deal last Tuesday. We are also in negotiations with Butt, Scholes and Beckham. The three of them signed long-term deals only two years ago, but they have come a long way since then and we would hate to lose them."



Ferguson: stood by Cole

Edwards also recognised the need at the club to extend a squad undermined by injuries and suggested that the manager would be given funding for any player he chooses. Indeed, United can now be expected to move swiftly into the transfer market as the club has funds sitting in the bank and Edwards is keen for them to be used on buying players, to offset against tax on the balance sheet.

Ferguson has targeted several players, including Gabriel Batistuta, the Argentina striker, who plays for Fiorentina in Italy, and Rivaldo, the Brazil international who plays for Barcelona. He has also expressed an interest in Japp Stam, the Holland defender, and Didier Deschamps, the France captain.

Edwards has other ambitious plans. He confirmed yesterday that the club would be looking to extend Old Trafford's capacity by a further 10,000, taking it to a limit beyond 65,000, and creating a stadium to rival the one planned in the city for the 2002 Commonwealth Games and even Wembley Stadium.

"We are well aware that we are turning people away from our games in numbers and we are pursuing ways of increasing the capacity. At this stage, we can't yet say how, but there are plans in process," Edwards said.

The chairman also revealed that a clause in the club's sponsorship deal with Sharp had been exercised, giving the Japanese electronics firm a two-year extension of their contract, which is due to expire in the summer.

In addition, Edwards disclosed that Manchester United plc would take a 25 per cent stake in a hotel to be built on land near to Old Trafford. "These are exciting times for the club," Edwards said. "We have many plans to increase revenue and a solid base to build on."

Amid all the razzmatazz of big business, United also welcomed back an old face. Mick Brown, once assistant manager to Ron Atkinson, is leaving his position as chief scout at Blackburn Rovers to take up a similar post at Old Trafford. It is on the efforts of such as Brown that a vast empire has been built.

Profits soar, page 27



Tyson, right, lays down the law to Stone Cold Steve Austin during his money-spinning debut. Photograph: John Mottern

Tyson wrestles with new image

Srikumar Sen in Boston sees Iron Mike enforcing the rules for once

Mike Tyson may be banned from the boxing ring, but his earning potential seems undiminished. The disgraced former world heavyweight champion collected $3 million (about £1.7 million) for one night's work in Boston on Sunday.

More than 19,000 screaming fans turned up at the Fleet Centre in Boston to see Tyson appear in Wrestlemania XIV. The show took $1,029,230 at the gate and was the biggest arena event held in the city. Pay-per-view receipts are expected to exceed $26 million.

Watched by 120 media representatives from seven countries, Tyson, who now wears a full head of hair, was "The Enforcer" — the man who gets into the ring if anything happens to the referee — for the main event, a match between Shawn Michaels, the champion, and Stone Cold Steve Austin.

Dressed in combat boots and a black T-shirt with an expletive printed on it, Tyson drew cheers as he danced and gyrated in the ring during the preliminaries, but generally went unnoticed as he hammed it up outside it.

However, when the referee was squashed between the "combatants", Tyson took over. He did not enter the ring until the bout reached its choreographed end, when he jumped in to knock out Michaels and award the bout to Stone Cold.

Dempsey, Louis, Walcott and even Ali have appeared in wrestling shows, but Tyson was different. His aura and menace had been blotted out by the glossy production. He looked like a little boy lost among the giants in the ring. Nonetheless, if boxing promoters needed proof that a third bout between Tyson and Evander Holyfield — the man whose ears he bit nine months ago to earn his ban from the ring — would be the event of the millennium, they got it.

Some of the crowd chanted "Holyfield! Holyfield!", and one young man close to Tyson held up a placard saying: "Bite me Mike". But Tyson didn't. If he lost his cool he would not get his licence back, and Las Vegas, which has not seen an important boxing match since the biting episode, would not be able to cash in on him.

Shelley Finkell, Tyson's new manager, said: "He has been offered [boxing] fights out of the country, but he has not taken them because he does not want to do anything to hurt his chances of coming back."

However, with Pete Rose, a disgraced baseball player also banned from the game, and Gennifer Flowers to help him to entertain the crowd, Tyson did not have to do anything stupid. Rose did a little announcing and so, too, did Flowers. Rose, however, was thrown out of the ring by the gruesome Undertaker.

Afterwards, Tyson was his old, surly self. Asked at a press conference about his new role, he said in his best unprintable English that, at least in wrestling, he had not been exploited.

Henman makes net gain of five in latest rankings

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TIM HENMAN'S performance in reaching the semi-finals of the Lipton championships at Key Biscayne, Florida last week has seen him rise five places in the world rankings to No 15. The latest rankings, announced yesterday, also saw Greg Rusedski maintain his position at No 5.

Henman, who was beaten at the Lipton by Marcelo Rios, the eventual winner, has overtaken two grand-slam tournament-winners in Thomas Muster, of Austria, and Sergi Bruguera, of Spain. He also bypassed the Spaniards Alberto Berasategui and Carlos Moyà, and Mark Philippoussis, of Australia. He is now only 415 points behind Gustavo Kuerten, of Brazil, the world No 10.

Two immediate targets that Henman has now set himself are to pass his previous highest ranking of No 14, and then to move into the world's top ten. "I played like a top ten player at the Lipton, and that's where I want to be," he said.

The two-year reign of Pete Sampras, is, however, over. After 102 consecutive weeks at No 1, Rios's victory in Key Biscayne has made the Chilean the first South American player to achieve the feat. Rios beat Andre Agassi 7-5, 6-3, 6-4 in the Lipton final and is only the fourteenth player to hold the No 1 spot since the ATP introduced official world rankings in 1973.

Rios cannot afford to falter in the weeks ahead if he is to retain the top spot. He is just 45 points above Sampras, but if Rios continues the outstanding form that he has shown of late, there seems little chance of Sampras returning to No 1 in the immediate future.

There must be a good chance that both Henman and Rusedski will be able to improve their standings over the coming weeks. Both were injured at this time last year, and neither has any ranking points to defend until June.

This week, though, their minds will be firmly fixed on national goals, as they concentrate on helping the Great Britain Davis Cup team to try to win the Euro/African zone group one tie with Ukraine in Newcastle that begins on Friday.

Rios's rise, page 50
Men's rankings, page 50

Clubs denied cup final tickets

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE ill feeling between the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and its leading clubs was raised yet another notch yesterday when it emerged that tickets for the Tetley's Bitter Cup final at Twickenham on May 9 will be distributed only through the Twickenham ticket office. The decision, taken by the RFU management board last Thursday and communicated to the clubs only after the semi-finals last Saturday, overturns years of practice.

"I think it shows a total disregard for the committed follower of the game," one frustrated Wasps supporter — and Twickenham debenture holder — said. Wasps had announced after their win over Sale that 15,000 cup final tickets would be available for sale from yesterday, only to find a fax arriving from the RFU late on Saturday evening announcing the change.

Saracens, who will go into the final as favourites, were taken aback by a decision that contrasts with common practice in most other sports. In the past the allocation, after Twickenham debenture holders have been catered for, has been for each competing club to be allocated one third of the total available, with the RFU selling the rest. "I can't believe that a sport that gets so much space in the media behaves in the way it does," Peter Deakin, the Saracens commercial manager, said.

"I'm learning quickly that this game is totally different to any other sport I have been involved with. It's not conducive to doing good business.

"Saracens are using this final as a launching pad for the next ten years. We are not out to make money from it, we want to use it to thank all the people who have supported us this season, in the move from Southgate to Enfield and then to Watford — sponsors, fans, season-ticket holders and their families.

"We are going to Twickenham as Francois Pienaar's family, promoting the family image, although there are no concessions and nothing for children under five. But we want to control our sales so that as many fans as possible can sit together."

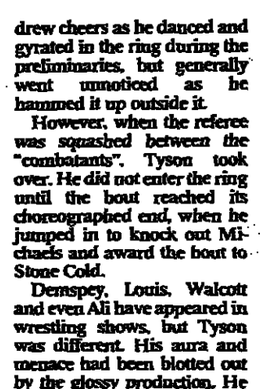
Geoff Huckstep, Wasps's commercial manager, said: "To find out this way is totally ridiculous. My own interpretation is that it's clearly a ploy to ensure that neither Wasps nor Saracens hold on to any RFU money in the light of actions that may be taken in the future. It's inconvenient for supporters coming to watch our games between now and May 9 and for corporate sponsors whose packages include access to any cup finals we might reach."

The RFU justified their action "for administrative and logistical reasons. The aim is to protect and ensure the proceeds from the final can be distributed to the 122 clubs who have participated in the competition more quickly and efficiently than in previous years."

At least one leading club has, in the past, been slow to return ticket money to Twickenham but the decision could have been taken months ago, while to cut out the competing clubs from acting as selling agents seems short-sighted and unfair to supporters.

It will fan the belief of the first-division clubs, who meet on Thursday, that they can no longer do business with the RFU. "We have been talking about this for two and a half years, we have to bring the issue to a head now," Nigel Wray, the Saracens chairman, said. "The clubs, as companies, must determine the structure of their season and if the RFU doesn't like it, the clubs will have to go ahead and do it."

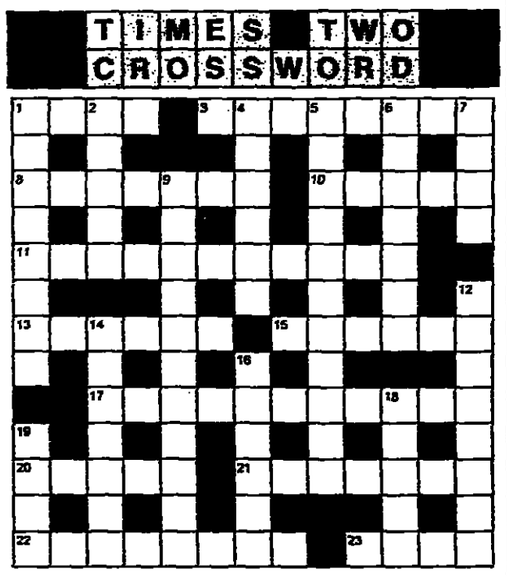
Saracens had discussed unveiling their new fly half at Twickenham on Thursday but that now seems unlikely. Instead, the successor to Michael Lynagh, who retires at the end of this season, will be disclosed elsewhere and is likely to be Alain Penaud, the Frenchman who helped Brive win the Heineken Cup last year.



Wray: seeking solution

McCall called up, page 48

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1367

ACROSS
1 Nasty surface layer (4)
3 (Middle Eastern) guide (8)
8 Non-believer (7)
10 Of the country (5)
11 Spreading slander (3-8)
13 Taking the part of; rail branch (6)
15 Grab; a fragment (6)
17 Tolerate; face (arch.) (11)
20 An element; groan (anag.) (5)
21 Lover of own land (7)
22 Insect; a hive for it in Innisfree (Yeats) (5-3)
23 A feature; kept up by the determinedly cheerful (4)

DOWN
1 Desultory battle (8)
2 Left hungry (5)
4 Soften (attitude) (6)
5 Tie, cut by Alexander (7,4)
6 Ideal husband (2,5)
7 World's longest river (4)
9 Youthful offence, bad behaviour (11)
12 Be minatory (8)
14 Ten-sided figure (7)
16 Russian plain (6)
18 Whinny (5)
19 Deep, irregular cut (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1366
ACROSS: 1 Third party 8 Put down 9 Thumb 10 Darn 11 Exorcise 13 Fresh 14 Alias 16 Category 17 Wall 20 Drone 21 Trinity 22 Sycophancy
DOWN: 1 Tepid 2 Interjection 3 Doom 4 Annexe 5 Tutorial 6 Purification 7 Obsess 12 Thuggery 13 Facade 15 Grotto 18 Lay-by 19 High

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